

Niantic River Watershed Committee

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Minutes NRWC Board of Directors August 7, 2014 East Lyme Town Hall, Conference Room 1 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, East Lyme, CT. FILED IN EAST LYME
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EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Attendees: Don Danila, Town of East Lyme; Peter Harris, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; John Jasper, Town of East Lyme; Don Landers, East Lyme Harbor Management; Doug Lawson, Town of Waterford; Chris Tomichek, Town of Waterford; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator; Dan Mullins, Waterford resident.

Excused: Rick Kanter, Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission; Eric Thomas, CT DEEP; David Turner, Town of Montville; Marvin Schutt, Town of East Lyme; Ruth Savalle, Town of Salem.

Absent: Jeff Crouch, Town of Montville; Marc Lafrance, Town of Montville.

- 1. Call to Order: Chairperson Chris Tomichek called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.
- Seating of Alternates: A motion was made by Doug Lawson to seat Don Danila for Marvin Schutt, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, motion passes. A motion was made by Don Landers to seat Peter Harris for Rick Kanter, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
- 3. Review and Approval of July 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes: Don Landers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Don Danila. All in favor, motion passes.
- 4. Treasurer's Report: Judy Rondeau reviewed the July financial report. Don Landers made a motion to approve the financial report as presented, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, motion passes.
- 5. Coordinator's Report: Judy and Ruth Savalle attended Celebrate East Lyme Day on July 19th. The Millstone Environmental Lab generously donated aquatic displays again this year, which were very popular. Don Danila and John Jasper presented talks about our water quality monitoring program at the Volunteer Water Quality Summit at Goodwin College in East Hartford on July 25th. Both talks were very well received. NRWC was listed as a sponsor. The Niantic River Regatta is scheduled for August 16th. The organizers have asked NRWC to provide outreach material. Judy queried board

members as to whether they would be interested in ordering order NRWC logo-wear for outreach or other events. Judy purchased Onset Hobo temperature loggers, which arrived in July. We were also able to borrow three units from DEEP Marine Division and three units from the DEEP water quality monitoring program. Judy and Don Danila installed the nine units in the unnamed tributary from Pigeon Hill (the Antares solar array site), Cranberry Meadow Brook, and Latimer Brook. Judy plans to schedule a streamwalk training in the near future to get started on Latimer Brook streamwalks. There will also be an RBV workshop scheduled through The Last Green Valley Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring program towards the end of August. The RFP for the 2015 §319 grant program is expected to be announced soon. Judy will be meeting with Chris Donnelly of the DEEP Forestry Division to get final approval of the Mago Park Demonstration Coastal Riparian Buffer project. The informational signage arrived on August 7th, and was installed by Judy and Dan Mullins. Bill Scheer of the Town of East Lyme has indicated to Judy that planning for the Niantic Streetscape is proceeding and construction, which will include the installation of stormwater tree filters, will begin after Labor Day. Dennis Goderre announced that the Town of Waterford has been awarded STEAP grant funding, and that planning for the Mago Point Redevelopment, including stormwater tree filters, will begin soon.

6. Old Business:

- a. Town Matters: There were no updates regarding town matters.
- b. Watershed Signs: There has been no action on the watershed signs.

7. Subcommittee Updates:

- a. 501c3: Dave Turner and Doug Lawson have had discussions about next steps and will contact Welles Gilmartin to move the application process along.
- b. Monitoring Group: Don Danila reviewed the July water quality sampling results. He will be going out with Maureen Fitzgerald in the next week. Now that bridge construction on Route 1 is complete, Don may move the Stony Brook sampling site from Waterford Parkway North to Route 1. There was also brief discussion about conducting isotopic analysis on the Cranberry Meadow Brook and Latimer Brook nitrogen samples.
- c. Education/Outreach Group: Reviewed in the Coordinator's Report. A discussion was held regarding the need for updates to the website. A suggestion was made to contact local high schools to identify tech-savvy students who can assist with the necessary updates.
- d. Grant Review/Fundraising Subcommittee: Reviewed in the Coordinator's Report.

8. New Business:

a. Review of Statewide Bacteria TMDL – Estuary 14: East Lyme/Waterford draft document. A request has been made by CT DEEP for a review of the draft TMDL for East Lyme/Waterford. Members agreed that the document was not well organized and difficult to read.

- 9. Next meeting: September 4, 2014, at 6 pm, at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic, CT.
- 10. Adjourn: Don Danila made a motion to adjourn at 7:14 PM, seconded by John Jasper. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Judy Rondeau

Watershed Coordinator