

**EAST LYME COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
REGULAR MEETING  
EAST LYME TOWN HALL  
OCTOBER 13, 2009**

**Members Present:**

Art Carlson, Chairman  
Ruth Reluga  
Marvin Schutt  
Mark Christensen  
Tom Kalal  
Joe Mingo, Alternate  
Ron Nichols, Alternate

**Also Present:**

Gary Goeschel, Conservation Officer

FILED IN EAST LYME TOWN  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
Oct 16 20 09 at 8:20 AM  
PM  
Esther B Williams  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carlson at 7:08 p.m.

**I. Additions to the Agenda**

Ruth Reluga asked that the Website be added under New Business

Marvin Schutt asked that they start to add a Member's Comments section to the agenda each month.

Tom Kalal asked that the Chairman update this Commission on the progress of the creation of an Agricultural Commission and on the Synthetic Turf Letter.

**II. Public Delegations**

There were no public delegations.

**III. Approval of Minutes from September 8, 2009 Regular Meeting**

Motion (1) Marvin Schutt moved to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2009 Regular Meeting.

Seconded by Ruth Reluga.

Motion Passed 5-0-1 (Ron Nichols abstained)

#### IV. Old Business

##### a. Bio-Assessment of Inland Waters (Results)

Ruth Reluga stated they did meet on September 19<sup>th</sup>. They were able to test all four sites.

**Joe Mingo entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.**

Cranberry Meadow had the best quality water, followed by the Four Mile River, and Latimer Brook. The Pattagansett River had the poorest quality.

The DEP representative was pleased with the work that was done. He did state that these test results do not indicate the quality of the water in the aquifers. This testing was just a thumbnail sketch, and will just pick up what chemical testing will not.

She suggested this Commission help to implement an education program to improve the health of our streams, rivers, and Long Island Sound. We can use the information we obtained to inform people to improve the health of the water in the rivers. She feels that people would be willing to make adjustments if they are informed.

Joe Mingo stated there is a Committee that has recently been formed and he is now the liaison between that Committee and this Commission, and Save the River Save the Hills has an education program. We should all work together.

Art Carlson stated he had a discussion with Pat Young and they discussed what this Commission is doing, and what her Committee is doing. Stream walking was discussed, which is a program to train people what to look for when they are walking along streams. He asked Ruth Reluga to write up a report on the program that took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the results of the testing.

Joe Mingo stated there is a Long Island Sound program and he suggested Ruth Reluga join that program.

**Ruth Reluga left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.**

Ron Nichols stated it would be helpful to have a free standing report by Ruth Reluga to summarize the findings on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Art Carlson agreed saying that he would like to have a stand alone report to put on the website, and he would like Ruth Reluga to draft up thank you notes to the participants from the 19<sup>th</sup> for his signature.

He also stated he would like this Commission to be the repository for all information compiled by other groups doing research in town, such as groups from the high school or Grasso Tech.

**b. Open Space Plan (Update)**

Art Carlson stated the Open Space Plan is ready to be produced.

Ron Nichols suggested they send a copy of the Plan along with the letter that is being sent to the Landowners referenced in the Plan.

**c. Nature of East Lyme Program**

**1. Foot Path System**

Chairman Carlson stated Yale asked for comment on what we would like to do. He sent them a copy of the Open Space Plan. He told them the paths would be for walking only, and the plan would be for citizens to maintain the paths with casual help from the Town.

He would like to set up a sub-committee to work on this. He would like them to obtain information on all of the Town property, right of ways, and easements. He also discussed the possibility of having foot paths on the landfill property.

**2. Identification of Plants**

Joe Mingo stated Al Burchsted, who is a retired Biology Professor, runs nature walks to identify plants. Mr. Mingo would like to have booklets prepared, and to be able to give those booklets out at the Hole in the Wall for people to walk the Boardwalk and identify plants.

Gary Goeschel entered the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

**3. Public Participation**

Art Carlson stated he would ask Ruth Roluga for the email list from Celebrate East Lyme.

**V. New Business**

**a. Website**

Art Carlson talked to Carmen Ames, and she will put on the website anything we want her to. Any information that we want to put up should be passed through this Commission for approval first.

Gary Goeschel suggested each member look at the whole website and see what information other Commissions are putting up. This may assist them in deciding what information they would like to put up.

**VI. Members Comments**

Marvin Schutt stated there may be some open space available in the near future to purchase. Any further discussion will be deferred until more information is available.

**VII. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Carlson discussed joining the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. He would like their input as to signing up for the \$100.00 yearly membership.

**Motion (2) Marvin Schutt moved for this Commission to become a member of the Connecticut Forest and Park Association for \$100.00.**

**Seconded by Ron Nichols.**

**Motion Passed 6-0.**

Chairman Carlson stated the Agricultural Commission package was sent to Rose Ann Hardy.

The letter to the Board of Education on the Synthetic Turf has been drafted.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**Motion (3) Ron Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.**

**Seconded by Tom Kalal.**

**Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**



**Karen Miller Galbo  
Recording Secretary**