

Niantic River Watershed Education and Outreach Working Group Meeting

Date: January 13th 2010

Time: 4-6 pm

Place: Waterford Town Hall

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Present: Sarah Lamagna, Kim Barber, Dick Conway (part of the time), Suzanne Thompson and Laura Rotchford

Absent: Stuart Mattison, Al Burchsted, Lynn Tytla

Regrets: Marcia Benvenuti, Joe Mingo, Denise Swiatek, Marvin Schutt

1. Introductions

- i. Attendees introduced themselves. Suzanne Thompson is a radio host on WLIS 1420 AM/WMRD 1150 AM and a journalist for the Lyme Times.

2. Frank Bohlen Speaking

- i. An email and phone message was left with Frank Bohlen to come and speak to the group about the data being collected around the railroad crossing in regards to the change in flow (more details to come).

3. Riparian Buffers Grant with SeaGrant

- i. Discussed updates with the riparian buffers grant with Juliana Barret of SeaGrant. The Niantic River Watershed Coordinator will be helping out Juliana with conducting 2 workshops: one for town officials and one focused towards landscapers. Also Eric raised a question which will be discussed further with Juliana about the mapping that's been done on riparian buffer areas by NEMO.

4. Superintendent Questionnaire

- i. Marcia did a great job on the original questionnaire and Sarah made the questionnaire a bit more user friendly. Sarah asked for feedback by the next meeting. Questionnaire is attached at the end of the meeting minutes.

5. PowerPoint for school, workshops, etc.

- i. Laura is working diligently in gathering all photos related to the Niantic River to put in the PowerPoint presentation. Joe Mingo has said that he has photos and

Laura will contact him again. Pat Young suggested to Sarah to ask Fred Grimsey's son or Deb Mosier-Dunn about getting photos as well.

6. Movie at East Lyme High School

- i. Laura is presenting a movie at East Lyme Auditorium on February 4th at 6:30 pm and suggested we go 1) to check out the movie, 2) to do a run through of the PowerPoint presentation, and 3) to put up some posters/info about the Niantic River Watershed.

7. Workshops with Marinas

- i. Eric Thomas had suggested to Pat Young about maybe doing some workshops with marinas to get them informed about the Clean Marina Program from the DEP. The best time to do this would be early enough before everybody starts bringing their boats out onto the river and the marina is busy (so around late March/early April).

8. Meeting Schedule

- i. Tuesdays seem to work best for everyone. We'll be meeting every second Tuesday of the month from 4-5 pm or 5-6 pm (it'll switch every month) at the Waterford Town Hall Auditorium.

Niantic River Watershed Advisory Committee (NRWAC) Questionnaire

A watershed is defined as all land and waterways that feed into a specific water basin. The Niantic River Watershed includes land area from the four towns of East Lyme, Montville, Salem and Waterford. In response to the degradation of water quality in the Niantic River, NRWAC was formed to organize and conduct outreach and education programs that address water pollution and watershed management issues of the Niantic River Basin for local students.

We would like to offer Waterford, East Lyme, Montville, and Salem educators and students **FREE** professional development, field volunteers, or guest speakers that incorporate Connecticut science curriculum standards and expectations and Connecticut Mastery Test science, inquiry, and math objectives into curriculum designed to improve the Niantic River Watershed and develop conscientious citizenry.

Please complete this questionnaire and send it back to the contact at the bottom of this page so we can better assist and assess your needs.

General Information

Name: _____

School: _____

Contact #: _____

Email: _____

Grade taught: _____

Please send questionnaire by mail, fax, or email (pdf) to:

Sarah Lamagna
238 West Town Street
Norwich, CT 06360
Sarah.Lamagna@ConserveCT.org
Fax: (860) 887-4082

Curriculum Information

Is watershed quality or watershed management included in your present curriculum? Yes No If yes, to what extent?

Watershed Quality:

Watershed Management:

Is data analysis, scientific inquiry, or problem solving part of your present curriculum? Yes No If yes, to what extent?

Data analysis:

Graphing (hand and computer):

Inquiry:

Problem Solving:

In which areas would you like assistance?

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality kits	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Assistants, Guides, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplies: Please list	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Development
-	<input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum or lesson planning
-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Any other comments:
