



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee*

## **Minutes**

### **Board Development Subcommittee Meeting**

**November 9, 2010**

**3 - 4 pm**

**Conference Room 2, East Lyme Town Hall**

**108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT**

**Attendees:** Dick Conway, Waterford; Gary Goeschel, Town of East Lyme; John Jasper, East Lyme; Joe Mingo, East Lyme; Marvin Schutt, East Lyme; Tom Wagner, Town of Waterford; Eric Thomas, CT DEP; Judy Rondeau, Watershed Coordinator

Judy Rondeau opened the meeting at 3:06 pm.

1. Welcome: Judy welcomed participants to the meeting.
2. Review of October 12, 2010 Meeting Minutes:  
John Jasper made a motion, seconded by Joe Mingo, to accept the minutes as presented. With no objections, and one abstention, the minutes were approved.
3. Watershed Coordinator's Report:  
Judy did not have a written report prepared for the meeting. She will prepare a summary and distribute it electronically for board development committee members to review. Judy will be meeting with the watershed town selectmen on November 29<sup>th</sup>. At that time, she would like to present draft by-laws, mission statement and logo for the selectmen to review. Once the by-laws are settled, discussion with the selectmen can begin regarding creating and populating the Niantic River Watershed Board of Directors. Judy will discuss a procedure and timeline with the selectmen for undertaking this next step.
4. Discussion:
  - a. By-laws: Based on discussion at the October Board Development Committee meeting, Judy prepared draft by-laws incorporating some of the elements of the Eight Mile River Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee by-laws. This draft utilized a two-tier board membership concept, with a "core" membership and a "non-core" membership. After considerable discussion, it was decided to remove the "non-core" membership component, and reduce the proposed "core" membership to the four watershed towns, the two shellfish commission and the CT DEP. Judy will revise the by-

*Niantic River Watershed* \_\_\_\_\_

*... a Treasure Worth Protecting*  
[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)



# *Niantic River Watershed Committee*

laws based on discussion and distribute electronically to committee members for review, prior to the Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> meeting with the selectmen.

The question was raised who will be responsible, and accountable, for the work of the watershed committee. The Board of Directors, once created and appointed will be the governing, and therefore, accountable body. Judy stated that once the by-laws are completed, we will start work on a Plan of Work, which will identify activities to be undertaken by the Committee. Judy also stated that she has specific tasks required under the current Clean Water Act grant that funds the Niantic River Coordinator position, and passed out a description of the current grant (Year 2) tasks, and the upcoming grant (year 3) tasks.

Judy asked, regarding the name of the group, should we be the Niantic River Watershed Advisory Committee or Group, since both have been used. Consensus was to drop Advisory, and use Committee – “Niantic River Watershed Committee” will henceforth be use on all correspondence.

## 5. New Business:

- a. Plan of Work - Marvin Schutt prepared a document entitled “Elements in the Plan for Rejuvenating the Environment in the Niantic River Estuary,” which was emailed to committee members. Judy would like to use this as a base to begin discussion regarding the preparation of a Plan of Work. Judy passed around copies of a Plan of Work from the Thames River Basin Partnership, as an example of an established watershed group, for committee members to review.

## 6. Next Meeting: **December 14<sup>th</sup> 2010, 3:00 PM, LTA Room, Waterford Town Hall.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:18PM.

## **Action Items:**

- **Judy will revise and distribute the draft bylaws for review prior to the Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> meeting with the selectmen.**
- **Please review the “Elements in the Plan” document and the TRBP Plan of Work for discussion at next month’s meeting.**

*Niantic River Watershed* \_\_\_\_\_

*... a Treasure Worth Protecting*  
[www.nianticriverwatershed.org](http://www.nianticriverwatershed.org)