



Town of Stonington
Shellfish Commission
152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

REGULAR MEETING
November 2, 2023
6:30 PM

A Regular Meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date. Members present were Chairman, Mr. Donald Murphy; Mr. Alan Banister; Mr. John Swenarton; Secretary, Mr. Austin Clark. There is a quorum present.

- 1) Call to order – Meeting called to order at 6:36 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – There were none. The Chair took the opportunity to add an additional agenda item under New Business 6a) Remuneration
- 3) Review and approval of the regular meeting minutes of October 18, 2023. The minutes were approved as Submitted and a motion was made to accept as submitted (Swenarton / Murphy) with one abstention, it was voted 3-0 .
- 4) Correspondence
 - a) In the monthly meeting packet, the Chair shared a copy of the Commission’s recent Stonington Magazine article.
 - b) The Chair shared with the group a flyer announcing a Foundations of Shellfish Farming Course sponsored by UConn and Sea Grant. Michael Gilman and Tessa Getchis will present the class.
 - c) The Chair shared with the group an e-mail from The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District. Its focus is to assist coastal communities to improve their water quality and habitat for marine life.
- 5) Business
 - a) The Chair Shared the water quality results for October with the Commission. The sampling was good. The recreational beds were closed on October 20th after 1.74 inches of rain and reopened on the 29th. In preparation for discussing the selling of permits online, the Chair included in the meeting packet, the history of permits by category.
 - b) Commercial Shellfish Reports

Will McKay mentioned that his cages are out of the water and that oyster seed is growing well.
Kris Simonds mentioned he is getting ready for winter. He also mentioned that the State has contacted him in the State’s attempt to promote Connecticut as an “oyster destination”.
 - c) A discussion on the draft of the license agreement for Stonington Farms Shellfish Inc. was started but it was decided to continue the discussion in the December meeting.
 - d) Likewise, the scheduled discussion about using Online Mooring for the Commission’s online permit sales was tabled until the December meeting.
 - e) Information was included for the Commissioners to study in the furtherance of the review of the

aquaculture guidance document, which was suggested to be reviewed at the next meeting.

f) Financial Review. The Chair shared the income of \$1,430 for the latest period, and the Commission had bills of \$703.53, a portion of which was for the 2023__24 fiscal year. A motion was made and seconded (Swenarton/ Banister) to pay the bills. Voted 4 – 0.

6) New Business

a) Remuneration.

Under new business, the Chair asked for opinions regarding requiring cash payment this year from the commercial growers in light of our current financial position. All concurred and a motion was made and seconded (Banister / Swenarton) to send this year's invoices asking for payment by check. Voted 4 – 0.

7) Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn and seconded (Swenarton / Banister) at 8:10pm. Voted 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,



Austin P. Clark
Secretary