



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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 2015

7:00 PM

A special meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at the Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm St., Stonington, CT. Voting members present were Mr. Don Raffo, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:01PM
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meetings of February 5, 2015 – Tabled until the next meeting. **Motion** to approve December 19, 2014 minutes (Swenarton/Raffo) carried unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence
 - a) A letter dated February 3, 2015 from David Provencher, Coastal Consulting and Development, LLC, to Donald Murphy, Shellfish Commission Re: DEEP Permit Consultation Form for Masons Island Boatyard.
 - b) A letter dated February 6, 2015 from Joan McLaughlin, Docko Inc., to Donald Murphy, Shellfish Commission Re: DEEP Permit Consultation Form for Andrew Worthington.
 - c) A letter dated February 22, 2015 from Donald Gerwick, Gerwick Merein Engineering, to to Donald Murphy, Shellfish Commission Re: Notice of Application published in The Day newspaper for Andre Maurices.
 - d) A letter dated March 2, 2015 from David Lamoureaux, DABA, to Donald Murphy, Shellfish Commission Re: DEEP Permit Consultation Form for Masons Island Boatyard RE: water quality data and sample collection frequency for Stonington Shellfish Growing Area.
- 4) Business – a **motion** made by Mr. Swenarton and seconded by Mr. Raffo to discuss item 4b on the agenda before item 4a was approved unanimously.
 - b) **Application by Mr. Andrew Worthington to reconstruct a sea wall on the west side of Latimer Point** – The application was summarized by Keith Neilson, Docko, Inc. SSC had no comment.
 - a) **Conditional Shellfishing Areas - Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island** – Conditional areas were open for all of February and weren't closed until after 1.1" of rainfall on March 14. Samples collected on February 26 from all areas had excellent results.
 - c) **Application by the River Company LLC to construct a fixed dock, ramp, and floating dock in the Pawcatuck River off Mechanic** – After reviewing the application, SSC had no comment.
 - d) **Implementation of the new valid period of the shellfishing permits** – The SSC fiscal year is March 1 through February 29 which means the currently issued permits are valid through February 29, 2016.
 - e) **Review the DABA Report on Water Quality Data, Nssp-MO sample collection frequency for the Stonington Shellfish Growing Area** – The report from David Lamoureaux of DABA showed that sample results from Stonington waters consistently meet standards and recommended that SSC continues to sample all Stonington Conditionally Approved Areas after rainfall events, targeting $\geq 0.50''$ within 4 days of the event, year round in order to maintain meeting the minimum Nssp-MO requirements under Adverse Pollution Condition (APC) criteria. SSC also reviewed a memo from Department of Agriculture Commissioner Reviczky to the members of the Conservation and Development Working Group that included answers to questions regarding the current status of water and meat sample transportation to the Milford Lab.

Mr Murphy will send out a response letter stating that a courier was promised for towns in eastern CT, and supporting to taking of oysters ≥ 2.5 "

- f) **Equipment – discuss plans for launching the shellfish boat** – The current plan is to launch the boat earlier this year, by mid-April. Shellfish Warden Russell suggested installing a small bilge pump to mitigate some slow leaks and install a battery switch. Purchase of a bimini top was also discussed. A **motion** made by Mr. Swenarton and seconded by Mr. Raffo to allocate \$250 for purchase and installation of a bilge pump and battery switch was approved unanimously.
 - g) **Updating Stonington's GIS information in the Aquaculture Mapping Atlas** – A new version of the Atlas has been launched and the developers are looking for feedback. Mr. Murphy will work with Kristen DeRosia on the new numbering system.
 - h) **Commercial shellfishing; reports and discussion** – Steve Plant asked for support for the Community Upweller Program he is working on with Mystic Aquarium. Will MacKay is interested in water sampling to conditionally open some of his grounds. Quentin Snedicker was in attendance but had no report.
- 5) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn was made (Raffo/Swenarton) and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



John Swenarton, Acting Secretary