



REGULAR MEETING

November 3, 2022

6:30 PM

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 6:31 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – There were no members of the public present and no comments offered.
- 3) Review and approval of the regular meeting minutes of October 6th, 2022. Commissioner Banister noticed a typographical error in paragraph 5b. It was duly noted and a motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made and seconded. (Banister / Swenarton) Voted 4 -0.

The Chair presented the proposed regular meeting schedule for the Commission for the coming year and suggested that, as the Commission has done in the past, to delay the December meeting and possibly cancel the January meeting.

- 4) Correspondence
 - a) The Chair shared in the monthly meeting packet, three applications for dock and jetty projects along with detailed drawings and area photographs.
 - b) Contained in the monthly packet were two pieces of correspondence, one from First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough, thanking the Commission and Friends for its contribution made in memory of David Motherway, Jr. to the Stonington Veterans Monument.
And the second letter from grateful and thankful citizen who was aided by our warden Rob Russell, when his power boat was drifting, due to engine failure, and Rob offered assistance in towing the boat back to the owners mooring. The letter was highly complementary of our warden.
 - c) A letter dated October 10, 2022 from Coastline Consulting & Development, LLC forwarding an application by 40 Salt Acres LLC to retain and modify an existing dock.

Also, a letter dated October 11, 2022 from Coastline Consulting & Development, LLC forwarding an application by 40 Salt Acres LLC to repair an existing jetty.

And a letter dated October 12, 2022 from Coastline Consulting & Development, LLC forwarding an application by Richard Koup to construct a residential dock.

- 5) Business
- a) The Chair presented the water quality results for the month of October, noting that the recreational areas were open all month, and mentioned that the State is getting ready to open Lower Mystic Harbor.
 - b) The Chair shared an e-mail with the Commission of a successful transplant of clams purchased from Fred Emery despite weather conditions that were less than ideal. To date the Commission has spent about half of the budgeted \$1,000 we proposed to spend in transplanting clam stock the fall.
 - c) Commercial Shellfish Report - Both Kris Simonds and Garrett Timmons both mentioned that they were experiencing a significant blue crab problem in their beds. Steve Plant said he was still busy providing crop to the market and found a small scallop during his harvesting.
 - d) The application by 40 Salt Acres LLC to retain and modify an existing dock at Edwards Point (near the western entrance to Little Narragansett Bay). The Commission reviewed the application and has no comments.
 - e) Additionally, the application by 40 Salt Acres LLC to repair an existing stone jetty, retain a concrete pier, and add a concrete cap at Edwards Point (near the western entrance to Little Narragansett Bay). The Commission reviewed the application and has no comments.
 - f) Also the application by Richard Koup to construct a 33'-11" private residential dock with an aluminum ramp and 8' by 16.25' float in Ram Point Cove, Masons Island. The Commission reviewed the application and has no comments.
 - g) In the meeting packet was a summary sheet of the remuneration from the commercial license holders. Kris Simonds mentioned that he would provide a 50 / 50 split of oysters and cash for his portion and gave a check to the chair for his amount. Garrett and Steve both indicated they would be sending a check for their amounts. A brief discussion was held regarding the value of clams and oysters the Commission uses, which is 32 cents and 60 cents respectively. Kris Simonds questioned in his 10/25 e-mail replying to the remuneration option, how long an unused license can exist without being used, as he was hoping to expand his footprint in Stonington. The Chair mentioned that perhaps the wording in the license agreement needs to be addressed regarding that issue.
 - h) A brief discussion was held regarding the 2022_23 scallop season. The warden and others have noted that it seems that, like most years recently, it would be a very poor year for scallop landings. The Chair noted that the Town Hall would sell scallop permits after the election due to a short staffing situation.
 - i) Enforcement – The Chair mentioned that our Warden would be out of Town from November 11th for a week and that if any of the payment in kind were to be made, the Commission would be looking to receive those in kind payments by December 1st.
 - j) Equipment – the current plan is to haul the Commission boat from the water in early December.
 - k) Financial review - the year to date summary sheet was included in the packet and a brief discussion was held. It was questioned that the date listed was September 1st, 2022. Upon later clarification, the data was updated through October 31st, 2022. The Chair listed the cash receipts, the warden's weekly time sheet and various invoices to be paid. The Chair commented on the invoice from Fred Emery, noting that David Carey from the DA/BA had asked that the Commission retain a sampling of the origin tags from Fred Emery.
- 6) New Business: - None appearing

- 7) Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded (Banister / Swenarton) to adjourn at 7:13pm and voted 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Austin P. Clark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "A" and "C".

Austin P. Clark
Secretary