



SPECIAL MEETING

July 14th, 2022

6:30 PM

A Special 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 6:32 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – There were no comments from the public.
- 3) Review and approval of the regular meeting minutes of June 2nd, 2022. A paragraph identifying letter was missing, and that correction was noted and the minutes were approved as amended. (Banister / Murphy)
Voted 4 – 0.
- 4) Correspondence
 - a) The Chair included in the monthly meeting packet a letter the Commission received from Beth Gomes of Stonington Farms Shellfish, informing the Commission of a change in ownership.
 - b) The Chair mentioned briefly that he would be reviewing the revised Mystic Harbor Management Plan.
- 5) Business
 - a) The Chair provided the rainfall and water quality for the month of June and noted the recreational beds were open for the entire month.
In shellfish permits related news, the Chair informed the group that Greenhaven Marina has been sold and the new owners have indicated that they will no longer be selling permits.
 - b) The Chair called upon Commissioner Clark to update the Commission on his efforts to reach out to various Shellfish hatcheries in the Northeast. The Commission recognizes the need for clam seed stock and in the packet were memos of notes of the conversations Commissioner Clark had with hatcheries in New Jersey and Massachusetts, as well as CW Shellfish in Guilford, CT. One comment that Chris Walston of CW Shellfish made was that if Stonington were to buy clam seed from him and the Commission didn't cover the seed with netting on the floor bottom, the survival rate might not be high.
The Chair did report that according to our Warden Rob Russell, people are still getting a decent quantity of clams in the deeper areas of Areas A & B.
 - c) Commercial shellfish report:
The Chair mentioned that he had received an application from David Motherway for a wild harvest permit, and explained that David uses a bull rake in the deeper wild harvest areas. The license cost for the year is

\$100 and a motion was made and seconded (Swenarton / Banister) to approve the application. Voted 4-0.

- d) Review of the Stonington Farms Shellfish, Inc application for aquaculture in Stonington waters. After some discussion and review of the filing for grow out location and the application for the required depuration site, the applicant agreed there was some modification to the applications that needed to be made. The Commission asked the applicant to show a little more detail as to the number bags on the bottom and their layout. The applicant said he re-submit.
- e) Equipment:
In the monthly packet, the Chair shared an e-mail from the Davis Gauge customer service department, now that we have received the gauge back from Davis for recalibration. The Chair presented a comparison chart Measuring the results of the Davis Gauge versus a plastic rain gauge located nearby. Before recalibration, the difference was up to 20% and now after recalibration it is now closer to a 10% variation. The Chair mentioned the new shellfish areas open / closed signs and recognized Paul Thomas with the Town who made them.
- 6) Financial Review:
The summary sheet of recreational permit sales income was in the monthly packet, along with the warden's time cards and fuel invoices from Don's Dock that were to be paid.
- 7) Adjournment:
A motion was made and seconded (Clark / Banister) to adjourn at 7:31pm. 4-0

Respectfully submitted,



Austin P. Clark
Secretary