



Town of Stonington
Shellfish Commission

152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

SPECIAL MEETING

August 6, 2020

6:30 PM

A Special Meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date online via WEBEX. Members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Donald Raffo, Mr. Daniel Barrett (alternate), Mr. Donald Murphy, Chairman, and Mr. Austin Clark (alternate), Acting Secretary.

- 1) Call to order – Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm. Mr. Murphy welcomed new member Austin Clark to the commission.
- 2) **PUBLIC HEARING:** Application # 2020-1 by Stonington Aquafarms, LLC. to conduct aquaculture on approximately 3.42 acres of shellfish grounds in Town of Stonington waters between Andrews and Dodges Islands. **Full Application:** <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/shellfish-commission/files/stonington-aquafarms-application> and at <http://www.stoningtonshellfishcommission.org> – Mr. Dana Lewis provided a summary of his application and project scope which includes placing 1” oyster seed on the bottom with no gear. The two adjacent property owners were notified. An eelgrass survey and ground-truthing was done in 2017 and showed no eelgrass. This was confirmed recently. Public comments: Peter Gleysteën supported the application and confirmed the absence of eelgrass at the site. A **motion** to close the public hearing (Moore/Raffo) was approved unanimously.
- 3) Discuss the results of the public hearing on application # 2020-1; decide whether to approve the application – A **motion** to approve the application for Stonington Aquafarms, LLC (Moore/Banister) was approved unanimously.
- 4) Review and approval of the minutes of the special meeting on June 11, 2020 – A **motion** to approve the minutes as written (Banister/Raffo) was approved unanimously.
- 5) Correspondence
 - a) A letter from Don Murphy, SSC to Richard Cody, Stonington Water Pollution Control Authority dated June 14, 2020 RE: support of sewerage system upgrade bond issuance.
 - b) A letter from Danielle Chesebrough, Stonington First Selectwoman, to Austin Clark RE: appointment to SSC as an alternate member.
- 6) Business
 - a) Discuss the water quality testing and status of Stonington’s conditional recreational shellfishing areas – Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island (Area A and Area B) – Conditional beds were open the entire month of June and test results were all good. The Aquaculture Bureau is doing shoreline inspections for illicit discharges in the Town of Stonington per communication with Alissa Dragan. Positive feedback has been received regarding the opening of Area B.
 - b) Application by Gennaro Modugno to construct a 4-foot wide by 142-foot long pier with a boat lift and small craft lift on the east shore of Latimer’s Point. Application: <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/shellfish-commission/files/modugno20200701> - This is an approved area that is very rocky. SSC comments: Avoid relocating rocks under pier and ensure that the project does not hinder shellfishing to the extent possible.

- c) Application by Lockwood CoveSide Marina, LLC to install three floating docks with utilities on the west shore of Wequetequock Cove as part of an expansion of a commercial marina in support of recreational boating access. Application: <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/shellfish-commission/files/lockwoodcovesidemarina20200701> – SSC has no comment.
 - d) Commercial shellfishing reports – None.
 - e) Review collections of bills – Permit sales and Warden time reports were reviewed. A **motion** to allocate \$69 for printing of the new SSC informational tri-fold pamphlet (Swenarton/Moore) was approved unanimously.
- 7) Adjournment – A **motion** to adjourn (Moore/Raffo) was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



John Swenarton
Secretary