



**Town of Stonington**  
**Shellfish Commission**

152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

REGULAR MEETING

March 5, 2020

6:30 PM

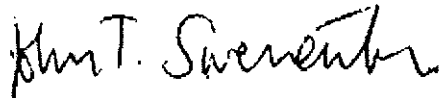
A regular meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at Stonington Board of Education District Office, 40 Field St. Pawcatuck CT. Members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Donald Raffo, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. Dan Barrett (alternate), Mr. Donald Murphy, Chairman, and Mr. John Swenarton, Secretary.

- 1) Call to order – Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm. A **motion** to move to item 5e on the agenda (Moore/Banister) was approved unanimously.
- 5e) Business - Discuss public outreach initiatives
  - Plans for the proposed “Green Day”, a Town wide event to promote environmentally friendly land use in Stonington with a focus on improving the quality of Stonington’s coastal waters – The event is in early April. An SSC member will be present to sell shellfish permits. CUSH will also be present.
  - Discuss opportunities to promote recreational shellfishing in Town waters – Steve Plant and Don Raffo will work on a flyer for a public shellfishing event.
- 2) Comments from the public (Comments on specific applications will not be allowed) - None
- 3) Review and approval of the special meeting minutes on February 6, 2020 – A **motion** to approve the minutes with minor edits (Banister/Raffo) was approved unanimously.
- 4) Correspondence
  - a) A letter dated January 2020 from Danielle Chesebrough, Stonington First Selectwoman to Thomas Lewis, TEC Associates Consulting Engineers RE Amtrak’s 2020 Vegetation Control Program.
- 5) 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 areas were open for all of February. Bacteria results from water sampling on February were very good.
  - b) Update on installation of an automated weather station at the Mystic Water Pollution Control Facility – Don Murphy presented comparison data for the new rain gauge and other rain stations nearby and found good agreement among them.
  - c) Discuss opportunities to expand the conditional recreational shellfishing areas in Town waters – Don Murphy put Alissa Dragan, DABA, in touch with Lou Allyn, Mystic Harbor Management, to discuss mooring status in Area B and possible summer conditional opening. There was also discussion of possible opening of Quiambaug Cove between the highway and train bridges, but

this would require 15 APC samples.

- d) Discuss transplant of clams from State of Connecticut waters in Little Narragansett Bay into Town recreational grounds – These clams would require depuration before placing in recreational beds. SSC agreed that most of the clams be place in Area A and the rest in Area B.
  - f) Commercial shellfishing reports – Garrett Timmons and Will MacKay were in attendance and reported no activity
  - g) Continue review of the application by Stonington Aquafarms, LLC to conduct aquaculture near Andrews and Dodges Islands – All necessary State and Federal Permits have been approved so the complete application was accepted by SSC and assigned the license # 2020-1. A public hearing is to be scheduled in April.
  - h) Review the new daily permit form and revised regulations for the 2020-2021 recreational shellfishing season – The daily permit will be color coded differently from the seasonal permit. The new regulation trifold guide was reviewed.
  - i) Review collections and bills – None presented.
  - j) Executive Session to discuss the hourly wage of the Shellfish Warden – A **motion** to move into Executive Session (Banister/Raffo) was approved unanimously at 8:00. Members present were: Alan Banister, Donald Raffo, Peter Moore, Daniel Barrett, Donald Murphy, and John Swenarton. The Executive Session was ended at 8:16 pm. No votes were taken in the executive session.
  - k) Set Shellfish Warden Salary for 2020 - A **motion** to increase the hourly salary of the Shellfish Warden from \$15 to \$18 (Moore/Raffo) was approved unanimously.
- 6) New Business – None
- 7) Adjournment – A motion to adjourn (Raffo/Banister/) was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



John Swenarton  
Secretary