



Town of Stonington Shellfish Commission

152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2019


6:30 PM

A regular meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at Mystic Middle School, 204 Mistuxet Ave., Mystic, CT. Members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Donald Raffo, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. John Swenarton; Secretary, Mr. Donald Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – None.
- 3) Review and approval of the minutes of the special meeting on January 23, 2019 - A **motion** to approve the January 23, 2019 minutes as amended (Banister/Moore) carried unanimously.
- 4) Correspondence – None.
- 5) Business –
 - a) Discuss the water quality testing and status of Stonington's conditional recreational shellfishing areas - Outer Quiambug Cove and East Mason's Island (Area A and Area B) – Conditional areas were opened six days only in January (Jan. 14-19) due to two >2" rain events. Results from sampling on January 8, 16, and 28 were all excellent except for two unusually high samples collected on January 16 at Outer Quiambug.
 - b) Discuss progress toward upgrading the Lower Mystic Harbor shellfish growing waters to Seasonal Conditionally Open – Mr. Murphy attended a meeting with representatives from the Mystic Water Pollution Control Authority, the Mystic Plant operator (Suez), and Kristin DeRosia-Banick (DA/BA) to discuss Mystic Water Pollution Control Facility operation, performance standards, and the Management Plan. Steve Plant summarized his discussions with Ms. DeRosia-Banick re: testing/harvesting schedules. A draft Memorandum of Understanding is out for review.
 - c) Discuss a request by CT Culture Oysters to renew license AQP-07-2008-2018 (also known as Clam Point 2) for a parcel in the Mystic River – A **motion** to approve the license renewal for another 10-year term (Banister/Moore) was approved unanimously.
 - d) Commercial Shellfishing Reports – Steve Plant reported ongoing stock management activities. Dana Lewis reported he has submitted his application for markers and buoys. Will MacKay reported on his discussion with David Carey, DA/BA regarding shellfish restoration projects and a CUSH project aimed at promoting advanced on-site water treatment (septic) systems. He recommended including restoration objectives in the SSC Management Plan.
 - e) Set permit fees and the regulations for the 2019-2020 recreational shellfishing season – Don Raffo provided a report on possible permit fee increases to compensate for declining revenue. A **motion** to raise all permit fees (including Resident Senior) by \$5.00 (Banister/Raffo) was approved 4-1 with Mr. Murphy opposing. All other regulations will remain the same as last year.
 - f) Review of finances; collections, bills, and remuneration – A commercial permit fee payment of \$100 was received from David Motherway. A **motion** to approve reimbursement of \$69.60 to Alan Banister for mileage to the Annual Shellfish Commission Gathering (Swenarton/Moore) was approved unanimously.

- g) Discuss CT Sea Grant's request for input to a plan for shellfish restoration in Connecticut – Tabled.
 - h) Review the draft modifications to the Shellfish Commission's guidance for applications and application form to conduct aquaculture in Stonington's waters – Mr. Murphy will make some minor modifications and forward the draft to the town attorney for review.
- 6) New Business – None.
- 7) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn (Banister/Moore) was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Swenarton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "S".

John Swenarton

Secretary