



Town of Stonington
Shellfish Commission
152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 3, 2018
6:30 PM

A regular meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at Mystic Middle School, 204 Mistuxet Ave., Stonington, CT. Members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Peter Moore, Mr. John Swenarton; Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman. Ms. Tessa Getchis arrived at 6:55 pm.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public
 - a) Jim Carlton suggested corrections to the April 12, 2018 special meeting minutes regarding third party involvement in eelgrass surveys. He also noted there is currently a scallop population in Quiambaug Cove.
 - b) Attorney Tracy Collins inquired about reclassifying an area west of Masons Island for recreational shellfishing. SCC pointed out public access considerations, sampling requirements, boundary establishment, and state approvals.
- 3) Review and approval of the minutes of the special meeting on April 12, 2018 - A **motion** to approve the minutes as presented (Moore/Murphy) carried unanimously.
- 4) Correspondence
 - a) An email dated April 17, 2018 from Jim Carlton to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: eelgrass surveys and third parties.
 - b) A letter dated April 26, 2018 from Tara Galbo, Day Smith Steele, LLC Donald Murphy, SSC Re: eelgrass survey requirements for proposed Dana Lewis project.
- 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) – All three conditional areas were open until April 15 then closed based on April 16 due to a rain event. Another rain event on April 25-26 kept all areas closed for the remainder of the month. Results from 4 separate sampling events (April 2, 11, 18, and 29) were excellent with fecal coliform counts below detection limits in most samples. Don Murphy reported that, based on an email from DA/BA, Area B can be re-opened if fewer than 10 boats are moored there. He also reported that three shellfish area demarcation signs need replacement (Latimer Pt., Dodges Island, and Area A).
 - b) Review of recent and planned activities in water quality testing in Stonington waters
 - i) Mystic River Case Study – recent results. MSC sampling results were generally very good with an anomalous result on April 24 possibly do to laboratory error.
 - ii) PATH to Reduce Pathogens in CT Agricultural Runoff – summer 2018 sampling plans. Don Murphy reported on a meeting he attended with study investigators. There will be periodic sampling of Anguilla Brook throughout the summer.
 - c) Application by Mr. Peter Gleysteen to modify an existing dock on the west shore of Andrews Island – SSC comment: movement of the shellfishing public around the completed pier shall not

be hindered.

- d) Application by Mr. Neil Wainland to construct a wood pier, ramp, and float on the west shore of the Pawcatuck River – SSC has no comment
 - e) Equipment – launch of the shellfish boat – The SSC patrol boat is in the water and is supporting enforcement and sampling activities.
 - f) Review draft modifications to the Shellfish Commission's forms on the web site – Director of Planning Jason Vincent is still reviewing forms. Don Murphy will set up a meeting with him soon.
 - g) Changes in web site hosting – Cost for hosting the SSC web site at the current level by Go Daddy has increased. D. Murphy investigated an economy hosting option and the SSC agreed this would adequately meet our needs.
 - h) Review of finances; collections, bills, remuneration – SSC received \$100 for the Motherway commercial permit (#18-01). A sample delivery invoice was received from Aeros Cultured Oysters. A **motion** to allocate \$1853.27 for shellfish boat expenses (water pump, trailer storage, spring tune-up) (Banister/Moore) was approved unanimously. The Shellfish Warden provided an estimate for new uniforms and a **motion** to cover the cost of \$257.18 (Swenarton/Banister) was approved unanimously. Aquaculture licensee remuneration spreadsheets have been updated. D. Murphy request SSC members review them.
 - i) Commercial shellfishing – Steve Plant reported seeing good growth of his oysters and has applied to the town storm water taskforce. Garrett Timmons was in attendance but had no report
- 6) New Business – None.
- 7) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn was made (Banister/Moore) and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectively submitted,



John Swenarton, Acting Secretary