



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 4, 2017
6:30 PM**

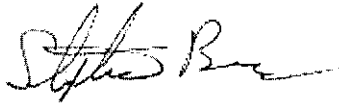
A Special meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at the Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm Street, Stonington, CT. Voting members present were Mr. John Swenarton, Mr. Don Raffo, Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Steve Brown; Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman

- 1) Call to order: Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.
- 2) PUBLIC HEARING: Application by the Little Narragansett Bay Oyster Co. (William MacKay) to conduct aquaculture on approximately 1.7 acres of shellfish ground in Stonington waters in Little Narragansett Bay and Fishers Island Sound south of Stonington Harbor. The public hearing began at 6:31 PM and while there were no comments by the members of the SSC, nor any written comments via mail by 3:00 PM on May 4, 2017, there was a question posed by an attending member of the public. He asked what boaters could expect to see on the surface of the water in the summer, and requested a picture of the buoys that would be seen at that time. At 6:45 a motion was made by Mr. Mr. John Swenarton, and seconded by Mr. Don Raffo to close the public hearing. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 3) Discuss the results of the public hearing and decide whether to approve the application by Little Narragansett Bay Oyster Co. (William MacKay). The commission members present were Mr. John Swenarton, Mr. Don Murphy, Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Steve Brown, and Mr. Don Murphy. A motion was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to approve application AQP-10-2017-2027 by the Little Narragansett Bay Oyster Co. (William MacKay) with remuneration being \$60 per acre per year in either cash, in kind or product. The motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Murphy will develop a license agreement between the Commission and Mr. William MacKay. The commission will review the agreement at the next meeting. Meanwhile, the applicant can begin working the ground immediately.
- 4) Review and approval of the minutes of the SPECIAL meeting of April 12, 2017.
A motion was made by Mr. Don Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister to approve the April 12, 2017 minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 5) Correspondence:
 - a) An email dated April 25, 2017, from Senator Christopher Murphy to Mr. Don Murphy- confirmation email supporting the letter sent by the SSC concerning the budget cuts to the National Sea Grant College program
 - b) An email dated May 3, 2017, from Senator Richard Blumenthal to Mr. Don Murphy- confirmation email supporting the letter sent by the SSC concerning the budget cuts to the National Sea Grant College program
Senator Blumenthal stated his support for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- 6) Business:
 - a) **Conditional Shellfishing Areas- Outer Quiambug Cove and East Mason's Island-** All conditional beds are currently closed and Area B will remain closed for the summer season. Three sets of water samples taken throughout April had excellent results.
 - b) **Re-classification of the waters north of Mason's Island-** discussion but no news to report
 - c) **Equipment: Update on the sale of the old shellfish boat-** Public notice went into the paper on May 3rd and is currently on the town's website. It will be held on May 18, 2017 at 2PM.

- d) **Discuss the offer by the Stonington Harbor Management Commission to dock the Shellfish Commission boat at their dock in Stonington Harbor** – The warden would like to keep the boat at Don's Dock because it is close to gas and is in a busy area, though the SSC appreciates the offer.
- e) **Status of applications to conduct aquaculture in Stonington waters:** no news to discuss.
- f) **Review of finances; collections, bills, and remuneration:** no news to report
- g) **Commercial shellfishing reports:** no news to report

7) **Adjournment-** A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Brown, Secretary