



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 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. Don Raffo, Ms. Tessa Getchis; Acting Secretary, and Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

1) Call to order at 6:33 PM

2) Comments from the public – none

3) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of May 3, 2018 was tabled until the next meeting.

4) Correspondence:

a) Attachment D (Shellfish Commission DEEP Permit Consultation Form) dated May 7, 2018 regarding the application from Mr. Nicholas Gleysteen to modify his personal dock in Area B. The commission noted no objections to the proposed project, however, several comments were included on the form:

- i. the proposed dock is in a recreational shellfishing area
- ii. the float should be removed seasonally
- iii. the dock should not interfere with public right to harvest
- iv. no rocks/boulders should be placed to inhibit movement through the area
- v. there should be no “no trespassing” signs.

b) A letter dated May 30, 2018 from Docko regarding the dock application of Mr. Richard Bradley on Roseleah Drive

c) An email dated June 2, 2018 from Dana Lewis forwarding his application to conduct aquaculture in Quiambug Cove.

5) Business

a) The warden has been installing harvest area markers to replace lost and damaged signs. For the first time, the commission was able to keep Area B open until the end of the month of May. DABA refined the restrictions so that the area must be closed when there are 10 or more boats in the area.

b) Jim Markow and Ed Emery have offered to provide clams for reseeding efforts. Mr. Raffo made a motion to allocate up to \$3,000 to purchase clams to restock the conditional shellfishing areas. Mr. Banister made a second to the motion, which was unanimously approved.

c) The commission reviewed the DABA 2015-2017 Evaluation of the Conditional Area Management Plan. The report states that the commission is meeting the requirements of the MOU for the conditional areas. The report notes that we have limited shellfish tissue data from harvest areas, and DABA emphasized that more should be done in the future.

d) A dock application from Mr. Bradley of Roseleah Drive was first considered in summer of 2017 and the commission had no comments. However, since that time there have been changes

to the application so another comment form must be completed. The commission has no comment to the revised application.

e) The commission discussed the draft Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Plan. The plan impacts 12 towns in Rhode Island and Connecticut. There is a federal program to preserve this watershed. It established a coalition of agencies and non-profits to create a stewardship plan to improve the quality of the watershed. The group has asked the shellfish commission to write a letter of support for the effort. The commission discussed writing a letter to show support for the process but with reservations about additional federal review of activities in the watershed.

f) Mr. Murphy met with the Town Director of Planning (Jason Vincent) to review the draft modifications to the commission's forms on the web site. Regarding the Shellfish Commission Application and Licensing Process document, the word "lease" should be "license". The goal is to have the guidance and forms together in one document that will be an appendix to the Shellfish Management Plan

g) The commission changed its website hosting to a less expensive platform using GoDaddy. The commission discussed how the website can potentially be updated in the future, or whether the commission's information could be placed on the town website and will be placed at the land use office.

h) There was a review of finances, collections, bills, remuneration. The commission collected \$2,681 for permit sales. Mr. Banister made a motion to reimburse Mr. Murphy in the amount \$247.64 for postage, website hosting and web migration. Ms. Getchis made a second to the motion which was unanimously approved. Mr. Raffo made a motion to reimburse Mr. Russell in the amount of \$61.95 to purchase gas for the shellfish boat. Mr. Banister made a second to the motion which was unanimously approved.

i) Commercial shellfishing reports

a. Will Mackay asked what license was necessary for wild harvest and depuration. Mr. Murphy stated that the wild harvest permit can be used for approved and restricted-relay waters. The annual cost is \$100 plus 10% of the catch. Mr. Mackay asked who he needed to get permission from to place a mooring in two different areas. Mr. Murphy will look into it.

b. Steve Plant stated that there is one more sampling period in the Mystic River. He asked what the next steps are, as far as the town is concerned, to move forward. Mr. Murphy stated that has to be an MOU reviewed by the town lawyer and signed by town officials.

c. Ed Emery purchased and revamped a new 38-ft boat. He is leasing 120 acres from the state and is interested relay work (part of his lease is restricted-relay). He is also looking at an area in town waters for dredging that is west of Wamphassuc Point, north of the Dolan property.

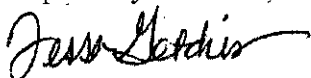
d. Garrett Timmons is building a crane for his boat and installing a small refrigerator unit on his trailer to hold the oysters. He plans to be working on his grounds next week.

6) New Business

a) Ms. Getchis discussed updates to the state/federal process for aquaculture applications.

7) Mr. Banister made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. Mr. Raffo made a second to the motion which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Tessa Getchis, Acting Secretary