



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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 8, 2016
7:00 PM

A special meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at the Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm St., Stonington, CT. Voting members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Don Raffo, Ms. Tessa Getchis, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the special meeting of November 9, 2016 – A motion to approve the November 9, 2016 minutes as presented (Banister/Raffo) carried unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence
 - a) An email dated November 19, 2016 from Harmony Sea Farm, LLC to Don Murphy RE: Request to use ~4.5 acre lot immediately south of their license lot for bottom culture.
- 4) Business
 - a) **Conditional Shellfishing Areas - Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island** – Conditional areas were opened on November 5 following good analytical results from samples collected on November 1. Results from samples collected on November 14 were also excellent and recreational areas remained open until a nearly 2" rain event on November 29.
 - b) **Equipment**
 - i) **Discuss the removal of shellfish boat from the water, winterizing, and winter storage** – The shellfish patrol boat was hauled out and winterized and there was consensus among SSC members for storage to continue at Don's Dock.
 - ii) **Sale of old shellfish boat** – Don Murphy and Warden Rob Russell covered the old shellfish boat for the winter with a tarp donated by Mr. Russell.
 - iii) **Donation of aquaculture gear in locker at Don's Dock** – Surplus aquaculture gear left over from the scallop restoration project, including several hundred feet of floating line, ~10 bottom bags, and 20 spat bags with blue mesh setting material will be donated to the Sound School in New Haven. Don Murphy will deliver them when he attends the Gathering of Shellfish Commissions on January 21.
 - c) **Enforcement** – Boat patrols will conclude soon.
 - d) **Review license agreement between Stonington Shellfish Commission and CT Cultured Oyster/Aeros Cultured Oysters Company** – Don Murphy provided Steve Plant to bill for the public hearing notice published in The Day newspaper. Also, the lot's northeast corner point coordinates need to be fixed to match the GIS boundary.
 - e) **Application by Edwin and Daniel Emery (Lyddy's Island Shellfish LLC) to conduct aquaculture in Stonington waters** - Tabled
 - f) **Status of applications to conduct aquaculture in Stonington waters** – The application for Will MacKay is pending. He has received correspondence from Army Corps of Engineers and is currently working on their permitting requirements.
 - g) **Review of finances; collections, bills, and remuneration** – Don Murphy reported that \$262 in permit sales was collected from Greenhaven Marina and a bill for \$127.98 for miscellaneous expenses was paid to Don's Dock.
 - h) **Discuss the Shellfish Commission submission to the Town of Stonington's 2017-18 budget-**

A **motion** to maintain SSC's financial self-sufficiency and request the same \$50 line-item budget allocation as previous years (Raffo/Banister) carried unanimously.

- 5) **Commercial Shellfishing** –Garrett Timmons reported that his oysters are showing good growth and he is preparing his surface floats for possible winter ice cover. Steve Plant reported on routine operations.
- 6) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn was made (Raffo/Banister) and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Swenarton". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John Swenarton, Acting Secretary