



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 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, Ms. Tessa Getchis, Mr. John Swenarton; Secretary, Mr. Donald Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – None.
- 3) Review and approval of the minutes of the special meeting on July 12, 2018 - A **motion** to approve the July 12, 2018 minutes as presented (Moore/Getchis) carried unanimously.
- 4) Correspondence
 - a) A letter dated June 19, 2018 from Tracy Collins, Waller, Smith, and Palmer, PC to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: modification of shellfishing designation west of Enders Island.
 - b) A letter dated July 5, 2018 from Rosanne Simborski Smyle to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Stonington Aquafarms Application to Conduct Aquaculture.
 - c) A letter dated July 11, 2018 from Jared and Judith Beaulieu to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Stonington Aquafarms Application to Conduct Aquaculture.
 - d) A letter dated July 11, 2018 from Calverly Beaulieu to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Stonington Aquafarms Application to Conduct Aquaculture.
 - e) A letter dated July 12, 2018 from Thomas Van Winkle to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Stonington Aquafarms Application to Conduct Aquaculture.
 - f) A letter dated July 12, 2018 from Martine Nolletti to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Oyster cultivation permit on Quiambaug Cove.
 - g) A letter dated July 16, 2018 from Michael Carey, Suisman, Shapiro PC to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Modified Freedom of Information Act request.
 - h) An email dated July 22, 2018 from Dan Pearson to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Oysters in Quanaduck Cove.
 - i) An email dated July 25, 2018 from Tom Cooke to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Shellfish Commission DEEP Permit Consultation Form to establish a small kelp farm.
 - j) An email dated July 26, 2018 from Dan Meiser to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Meiser/Behan application withdrawal.
 - k) An email dated July 26, 2018 from Jeff Chandler, CTDEEP Emergency Response Unit, to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: Oil spill drill.
- 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) – Conditional Areas A and Outer Quiambaug have been open for recreational shellfishing May 14 and through July. Water testing results from July 9, 2018 samples were excellent. There was a closure of

outer Stonington Harbor due to a permit violation (high fecal coliform count in a 7/17/18 sample at the Stonington Borough Wastewater Treatment Facility. SSC is still looking for a source of clams for restocking recreational areas.

- b) Discuss a request by the Friends of Mason's Island to designate the area west of Enders Island as a "recreational shellfishing only" area – Attorney Tracy Collins from the law firm Waller, Smith, and Palmer, PC, spoke on behalf of Friends of Mason's Island and requested information and guidance regarding reclassification of shellfish areas in Town of Stonington waters.
 - c) Update on draft modifications to the Shellfish Commission's forms on the web site – The most recent version of the flow chart for aquaculture applications provided by Director of Planning Jason Vincent was reviewed. SSC recommended minor changes. Alan Banister and Don Raffo will continue to work on the written guidance for aquaculture applications.
 - d) Review of finances; collections, bills, remuneration –A **motion** to allocate \$144.00 for the invoice from AGJO to cover costs for printing recreational shellfishing permits (Getchis/Banister) was approved unanimously.
 - e) Commercial shellfishing –Garrett Timmons reported good oyster growth but heavy cover of the green alga *Cladophora* was causing problems with harvesting. Will MacKay continues work on installing buoys and anchors. He also expressed concerns over the impact of proposed development in Mystic with additional sewage flow diverted to the Borough Wastewater Treatment Facility as the Mystic facility is near capacity. Steve Plant reported seeing newly established eelgrass beds in Beebe Cove and the Mystic River.
- 7) New Business – None.
- 8) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn was made (Getchis/Banister) and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectively submitted,



John Swenarton, Secretary