



# Town of Stonington Shellfish Commission

152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 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, Ms. Tessa Getchis, Mr. Donald Raffo, Mr. John Swenarton; Secretary, Mr. Donald Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- 2) Comments from the public – None.
- 3) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on September 6, 2018 - A **motion** to approve the September 6, 2018 minutes as presented (Banister/Getchis) carried unanimously. A **motion** to approve the September 26, 2018 minutes as presented (Banister/Raffo) carried unanimously.
- 4) Correspondence
  - a) An email dated September 12, 2018 from Donald Murphy, SSC to Dan Meiser Re: Meeting to discuss aquaculture application.
  - b) A letter hand delivered at the September 26, 2018 SSC special meeting from David Motherway to SSC Re: Comments on the draft aquaculture license application guidance document.
  - c) A letter dated September 21, 2018 from Christina Lopes, Docko, Inc., to Donald Murphy, SSC Re: DEEP consultation form, Mystic River Square Condominium Association.
- 5) Business
  - a) Discuss the water quality testing and status of Stonington's conditional recreational shellfishing areas – Outer Quiambug Cove and East Mason's Island (Area A and Area B) – Conditional Areas A and Outer Quiambug were open in September until a rain event closure on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Periodic rain events kept all areas closed through the end of the month. Water testing results from September 9, 19, and 30 samples were generally good with the exception of Station 10 on September 9 and 19 and Stations 12.6 and 13 on September 12.
  - b) Application by Mystic River Square Condominium Association to construct a floating dock and restraint piles on the east shore of the Mystic River – Following a presentation by Keith Neilson, Docko, Inc., SSC had no comment. Mr. Murphy will forward the consultation form to CT DEEP.
  - c) Set 2019 Shellfish Commission meeting schedule – SSC agreed to retain the 2018 meeting schedule and location for 2019 (first Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm, Mystic Middle School).
  - d) Discuss the prospects for an upgrade of the Lower Mystic River shellfish growing waters to Seasonally Conditionally Open – The Mystic Sewage Treatment Plant performed well in 2017 and early 2018 but has experienced problems with the UV system later in 2018. CT DEEP and DA/BA are working with WPCA to correct the problems. Draft MOU amendments for the upgrade will be developed ahead of time to be implemented once the problems are corrected.
  - e) Commercial shellfishing reports – Garrett Timmons reported that the season is slowing down. Will Mackay was present but had no report. Steve Plant reported good growth and expects a longer than usual growing season due to continued high water temperatures.
  - f) Discuss results of the "Town Hall" Oil Spill Workshop held on September 20, 2018 – Tessa Getchis attending and reported that the workshop was well attended and productive.

- g) Update on the preparations for the opening of the 2018-2019 scallop season in Stonington waters- Permit vendors have been notified that the 2018-2019 scallop season will open at sunrise October 6, 2018 and will close at sunset on March 31, 2019. Permit fees will remain the same as last year.
  - h) Review of finances; collections, bills, remuneration – A **motion** to allocate \$70 to cover cost of printing scallop permits (Banister/Raffo) was approved unanimously.
  - i) Review the draft modifications to the Shellfish Commission's guidance for applications and application form to conduct aquaculture in Stonington's waters – Review of draft modifications to the SSC guidance for applications and the application form was completed. Mr. Murphy will forward the updated draft to Jason Vincent, Director of Planning, for review.
- 7) New Business – None.
- 8) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn (Banister/Raffo) was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Respectively submitted,

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

John Swenarton, Secretary