



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 6, 2014
7:00 PM

A regular 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, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meetings of November 7, 2013 and the special meeting minutes of December 19, 2013 – Approval of November 7, 2013 minutes tabled until the next meeting. **Motion** to approve December 19, 2013 minutes (Banister/Raffo) carried unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence
 - a) A letter dated December 17, 2013 from Tina Wazny, Docko, Inc. to Donald Murphy, Shellfish Commission Re: DEEP Permit Consultation Form for Edith P. Simmons, Trustee.
 - b) A letter dated January 21, 2014 from David H. Carey, DABA to Connecticut Eastern Region Shellfish Commissions RE: Seawater and Shellfish Tissue Sample Collection Coordination.
 - c) Email dated January 29, 2014 from Erika Mark, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to Donald Murphy, Stonington Shellfish Commission Re: request for information on grower leases in the Mystic River for an upcoming dredging project.
- 4) Business
 - a) **Conditional Shellfishing Areas - Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island** – Conditional areas were open for most of December, closing on the 29th when 1.31” of rainfall occurred. Two closures occurred, one on December 29 and one on January 12 due to rain events. Water testing of samples collected on December 1 and 18 and January 14, 20, and 29 from all areas had excellent results.
 - b) **New procedures for transporting sea water and shellfish samples to DABA** – Shannon Kelly of DABA no longer has a state vehicle and David Carey is encouraging local commissions to coordinate sample deliveries. Mr. Murphy will be with shellfish commissions from Waterford, East Lyme and Groton to discuss coordinated delivery plans. Ledge Light Health District does regular beach water deliveries to the lab in Cromwell, and may be able to assist.
 - c) **Update on new seasonally conditional shellfish areas in the Mystic River** – The Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by all parties and delivered to DABA. Final approval is delayed due to ongoing construction work to upgrade the Mystic waste treatment facility.
 - d) **Report on Gathering of Shellfish Commission** – Mr. Murphy attended and provided a summary. There was considerable discussion regarding Vibrio; many commissions are putting links to Vibrio information on their websites. David Carey suggested that meat sampling may be discontinued in the near future as sufficient data are gathered.
 - e) **Application by Edith P. Simmons Trustee to construct a ramp and float in Quanauduck Cove** – No comment
 - f) **Enforcement** – No report.
 - g) **Equipment – Update on shellfish boat, gear in locker, etc.** – The SSC patrol boat has been hauled, covered, and winterized. Two lockers were rented for the next year for storage of miscellaneous gear.

- h) **Procedure for recording aquaculture agreements in Town Clerk's Office** – Mr. Murphy met with Town Clerk Cindy Ladwig and it was agreed upon that aquaculture leases and licenses will not be recorded in the Town oyster grounds book, but will be maintained in a folder in the Town Clerk's office for tracking purposes.
 - i) **Update on finances; collections, bills, and remuneration** – A motion to authorize expenditure of \$290 to cover locker rentals at Don's Dock (Raffo/Murphy) was approved unanimously. Mr. Raffo suggested shifting the SSC fiscal year to the calendar year to align with the Town's fiscal calendar and allow utilization of Town reports. There was no report on remuneration.
 - j) **Commercial shellfishing; reports and discussion** – Will MacKay submitted an Application to Conduct Aquaculture for SSC review.
- 5) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made (Banister/Swenarton) and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectively submitted,



John Swenarton, Acting Secretary