

**STONINGTON SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

02 July 2008

A regular meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission was held on this date at the meeting room at the Human Service Building. Voting members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Don Raffo, Mr. Alan Desbonnet, Secretary, and Mr. Donald Murphy, Chairman.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:16 PM.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Raffo to approve the 12 June minutes as presented. Mr. Desbonnet provided a second to the motion, which was passed, Mr. Banister abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter dated 09 June 2008 from Stonington Finance Director to Boards & Commissions re: 07/08 Budget Reports.
2. A letter dated 22 June 2008 from Mr. Murphy to Steve Plant, Connecticut Cultured Oysters re: reimbursement to the commission for advertisement for public hearing.

BUSINESS

1) Conditional Shellfishing Areas

- a) Area A and Outer Quiambog Cove were open 01-18 June, closed 19-20 June and open 21-30 June. Area B was closed all of June as per the MOU.
- b) Mr. Murphy reported on an unexplainable series of high coliform counts on the 16th of June that occurred in both Stonington and Groton waters. Counts were very high across all sampling stations just before a rain event, but then decreased to very acceptable levels following a ¾ inch rainfall event.
- c) Mr. Murphy reported that the clam stocking into Area A went very well, and thanked all that assisted in the venture.

2) GIS Project Update

- a) Mr. Murphy requested that Mr. Banister complete a short summary of a paragraph or two on the project and submit that to Ms. Getchis. Mr. Banister agreed.
- b) Mr. Murphy reported that the commission will need to transfer \$46.50 from the general fund to the GIS account fund to cover expenses. There was a **motion** by Mr. Banister to transfer \$46.50 as stated above. Mr. Raffo provided a second to the motion which was unanimously approved.

3) Enforcement & Equipment

- a) Mr. Banister briefed the commission on a conversation with Warden Motherway explaining the mechanics and reasoning for hiring an outside contractor to assist the commission in the rehabilitation project. No follow up is needed.

4) Scallop Enhancement Project

- a) Mr. Murphy reported that Courtney Hermann will be taking Tessa Getchis' place at CT Sea Grant during her maternity leave, and that she will provide assistance on the scallop project.

- b) Mr. Murphy reported on some problems encountered setting corner markers for the project, but believes these have now been solved and corner markers will be placed as soon as schedules allow. Mr. Murphy also reported he will get rebar to use as weights to hold scallop bags on the bottom, and is planning to tie-wrap them to the sides of the bags. Written permission to deploy marker buoys has not yet been received from CTDEP, but verbal permission has been granted and so the project will move forward as planned to set marker and other buoys in water.
- c) The supplier on Martha's Vineyard will have scallops to us either Tuesday or Thursday of next week (8th or 10th) and they will go in the water as soon after as possible.

5) *Dock Application No. 200600006-DL (Capuano Trust)*

- a) After discussion it was agreed the commission had no comment on the application.

6) *Commercial Activity Updates*

- a) No commercial updates were given.
- b) Mr. Murphy presented draft memos documenting remuneration by growers to the commission as per their license agreements. Some changes were suggested, and Mr. Murphy agreed to incorporate these. Mr. Desbonnet agreed to compile a single spreadsheet for tracking remuneration for all growers, and will compile that once Mr. Murphy forwards the amended memos to him.

There being no further business, Mr. Banister made a **motion** to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Raffo. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:41PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Desbonnet; Secretary