

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

07 May 2008

A regular meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission was held on this date at the Human Resource 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 7:03PM.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Banister to approve the 02 April minutes as amended. Mr. Raffo provided a second to the motion, which was unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A letter dated 01 April 2008 from Stonington Board of Selectmen to Mr. Murphy re: reappointment of Alan Desbonnet to the commission through 31 January 2013.
2. A letter dated 04 April 2008 from Docko Inc., to Mr. Murphy re: Brewer's Marina expansion and dredging project.
3. A letter dated 10 April 2008 from Ron Olsen, CT Dept. of Agriculture to Mr. Murphy re: Viability Grant Project.
4. A letter dated 10 April 2008 from Mr. Murphy to Mr. Grzywinski, CTOLISP re: comments on dock application no. 200401245-MG (Shaffer's Marina).
5. A letter dated 16 April 2008 from W.G. Vaiciulis, Vaiciulis Eng., re: public notice for the McKay dock application.

BUSINESS

1) Conditional Shellfishing Areas

- a) Area A, B and Outer Quiambog Cove were open 01–03, closed 04–12, open 13–28 and closed 29–30 April. Area B closed 01 May as per the MOU (was closed due to rainfall and not reopened with other areas).
- b) Mr. Murphy reported that shellfish meat samples are required after DA/BA closes waters due to extreme events. Mr. Murphy noted that a dozen clams must be submitted for sampling, and that it is often difficult to get that many if weather conditions are poor. He has permission to keep clams in a bag/cage for such purposes, but will ask DA/BA if he can keep oysters since they hold over better in gear than do clams and we do not want the holding process to influence the analytical results.

2) Scallop Project Update

- a) Mr. Murphy reported that all bureaucracy has been satisfied in the process and an account is open at town hall to receive funds. The check from TNC will go directly to the Finance Dept and into the account. A first payment of \$10,000 is expected shortly. The CTDEP permit is not in hand yet, but in the works.
- b) Mr. Murphy reported that several thousand breeder scallops have been located, but the total is about half the 10,000 desired. Mr. Desbonnet agreed to make a few contacts and see if more scallops could be located. Mr. Banister agreed to inquire about use of the Garbo dock to hold scallops for deployment, and Mr. Murphy agreed to contact the Milford lab to see if the commission could borrow some lantern nets.

- c) Mr. Murphy reported that the marker permit has been filed with CTDEP Boating Safety, but a site visit must occur prior to issuance. Mr. Desbonnet offered use of his boat to do the site visit if the commission boat is not ready.
- d) Mr. Banister agreed to contact Pine Point School and see about finding students for a work party to build cages, and about using the school as a staging point for the work sometime during late May.

3) *GIS Training Grant from DA*

- a) Mr. Banister reported that the class was very good and that he is comfortable with the ArcView GIS software. Mr. Murphy noted that the commission gets a “student version” of the software to use free for 1 year, and that the “special project” the commission undertakes in return will be to map the Stonington Harbor mooring grounds.

4) *Boat Commissioning*

- a) Mr. Murphy reported that Warden Motherway is moving forward in getting the boat ready for the water.
- b) Mr. Raffo made a **motion** to allocate up to \$500.00 for spring commissioning of the boat. Mr. Desbonnet made a second to the motion which was unanimously approved.

5) *Dock Application No. 200702070-DL (Osbrook Point)*

- a) After discussion it was agreed that no comment would be submitted.

6) *Commercial Activities*

---no reports---

7) *Public Hearing: Connecticut Cultured Oysters Aquaculture License Application*

- a) Mr. Murphy introduced the application and summarized the activities proposed.
- b) Public Comment:
 - i) There were no comments provided by the public on the application.
- c) Mr. Raffo made a **motion** to enter a License Agreement between the Stonington Shellfish Commission and Connecticut Culture Oysters as defined in application #AQP-07-2008-2018 (B-2). Mr. Banister provided a second to the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- d) Mr. Raffo made a **motion** to apply the same remuneration and stipulations to this license agreement as were applied to #AQP-04-2005-2010 (B-1). Mr. Banister made a second to the motion, which was unanimously approved.
- e) Mr. Desbonnet agreed to develop the Aquaculture License Agreement and route it to Mr. Murphy for review and execution.

There being no further business, Mr. Banister made a **motion** to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Desbonnet. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:21PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Desbonnet; Secretary