

STONINGTON SHELLFISH COMMISSION

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

22 July 2009

A special meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at the Stonington Human Services Meeting Room at 166 South Broad St., Pawcatuck, CT. Voting members present were Mr. Don Raffo, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, and Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Raffo to accept the 3 June 2009 Regular Meeting minutes. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email from Harold Storrs, Director, Stonington Water Pollution Control to Don Murphy dated 15 July 2009 re: meeting on 28 July 2009 to discuss a pilot sewage treatment program for the Mystic plant called BioMag,

BUSINESS

- a. *Conditional Shellfishing Areas* – Bad test results occurred after heavy rains of 18-19 June for both water and meats. Outer Quiambug was opened but very heavy rainfall on July 1 forced closure of all shellfish beds. After intensive testing by DA/AB, all samples collected on 13 July were clean and conditional beds and outer Quiambug were re-opened on 16 July.
- b. *Allocate funds to restock recreational shellfishing areas* - A **motion** was made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Swenarton to allocate \$3000 to purchase clams for re-stocking. The motion was approved unanimously. Mike Theiler suggested Larry Williams and Joe Gilbert as possible sources of clams for this effort.
- c. *Enforcement/Equipment* – A **motion** was made by Mr. Raffo that was seconded by Mr. Swenarton to allocate \$98 for renewal of Boat US towing membership for the SSC patrol vessel. The motion was approved unanimously.
- d. *Application by John O'Brien to retain existing stone wall and conduct improvements on the Pawcatuck River* – Mr. Keith Neilson from Docko presented the rationale for modification of a vertical seawall. SSC has no comment.
- e. *Application #20802501-MG by Roland Violette to install a fixed pier and boat lift on the east side of Mason's Island* - Mr. Keith Neilson from Docko presented the plan proposing to put a concrete cap on an existing groin, extend a wooden pier and install a boat lift in Area A. SSC comments: no signs shall be placed prohibiting shellfishing or public access to the waters where the project is proposed, and no boulders shall be placed under the pier that would impede such access.
- f. *Update on GIS project* – Tessa Getchis submitted a report on the completed project that was submitted to the Dept. of Agriculture. Once the report is approved, funds will be forwarded to the Town of Stonington to cover costs of the project.
- g. *Application by Michael Theiler to conduct commercial harvesting of shellfish in Stonington waters* - conditions of permit (e.g., % share, eelgrass protection) were discussed. Mr. Theiler expressed interest in Little Narragansett Bay (LNB), which is closed to commercial harvesting Memorial Day to Labor Day. Area C was suggested. Mr. Murphy will put together a package of maps to provide more specific details.
- h. *Update on scallop enhancement project in LNB* – Although the project was postponed due to possible contamination of scallops, The Nature Conservancy offered fund to cover costs for this year. Project buoy markers will remain in place until August..
- i. *Application by Ingrid Fedderson to retain existing seawall bulkheads, fixed docks, finger piers, floating dock and ramp in Stonington Harbor.* – Michael Blair represented Ms. Fedderson and presented rationale and overview for the project. SSC has no comment.

With no new business to discuss, Mr. Raffo made a **motion** to adjourn that was seconded by Mr. Swenarton. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Swenarton, Acting Secretary