

STONINGTON SHELLFISH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2010

A meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission was held on this date at the Stonington Town Hall. Voting members present were Mr. Donald Murphy, Mr. Donald Raffo and Mr. Alan Banister.

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:05PM.

A motion was made by Mr. Raffo to accept the April 13, 2010 meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Banister. The motion was unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A letter dated May 20, 2010 from Mr. Murphy from the Shellfish Commission to Connecticut Sea Grant project supporting the aquaculture education project.
- A letter dated May 28, 2010 from A. Lord concerning the application from Ms. Rita Niver-Viens on her DEP permit application.
- An application from Yankee Oyster LLC for a license agreement to conduct aquaculture in Town of Stonington waters dated May 24, 2010

BUSINESS

1. Conditional Shellfish Areas:

Area A, B and Outer Quiambaug were closed from 4/1/10 to 4/9/10 and open from 4/9/10 to 4/31/10. Per the MOU Area B was closed on 5/1/10. Areas A and Outer Quiambaug Cove were open until 5/18/10 and closed until 5/28/10 and are now open. Meat samples were obtained on 4/17/10 and all tested satisfactorily.

2. Clam Restocking:

Mr. Murphy applied to DABA for a permit to transplant certified clams purchased from Hillard Bloom Shellfish, Inc. to the conditional shellfish areas. The permit was obtained and approximately \$3000.00 worth of clams was put into Areas A and Outer Quiambaug on May 15, 2010 with help from commission member Alan Banister along with volunteers and members of the Noank Shellfish Cooperative.

3. Budget:

The Commission reported that \$ 2283.00 in permit fees were collected from the vendors.

4. Warden:

The Commission reviewed the warden's time sheets and patrol hours.

5. Equipment:

The boat is currently in the water. A motion to allocate to \$1192.78.00 to pay for summer trailer storage, engine and boat work was made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister and was approved unanimously.

6. Dredging Application by Mystic Yacht Club :

Mr. William Vaiciulis, project engineer for the Mason's Island Marina, described the proposed dredging project and the need for extending the dredging window beyond 1 June. The Commission reviewed the plans and discussed the potential impacts the dredging would have on the nearby shellfish beds. A motion was made by Mr. Raffo to permit the dredging to take place no later than July 1, 2010 and to limit the hours of dredging from full high slack water to full slack low water. The motion was seconded by Mr. Banister. The motion passed with Mr. Murphy abstaining. A notice will be sent into the state informing them of the Commission's decision.

7. Dock Application:

An application by Ms. Rita Niven-Viens to replace an existing piling wall was reviewed. The Commission did not have any comments on the application and will notify the state of our no comment decision.

8. Application by Yankee Oyster LLC:

The Commission received and reviewed an application by Yankee Oyster, LLC. The Commission discussed obtaining an independent review of any eel grass in the area with the applicant. The Commission also discussed the various state permits needed to conduct aquaculture in the town waters. The current status of the application is that it has been received by the Commission and it will assign it an application number. At the next meeting the Commission will determine the completeness of the application in regards to the eel grass study. At that time it will be determined if the application is complete and when to begin the public hearing process.

9. Commercial Activities:

No commercial activities were discussed.

10. New Business:

No new business was brought before the Commission.

At 8:15 a motion was made by Mr. Raffo to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Banister and was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Raffo', is written over the typed name.

Donald Raffo, Acting Secretary