

**STONINGTON SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

3 February 2011

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. Don Raffo, Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Carl Hillegass, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

1) Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

2) Review and approval of minutes of the regular meeting of December 15, 2010 – **Motion** by Mr. Raffo was seconded by Mr. Banister to approve these minutes as written. The motion passed with 4 votes in favor and 1 abstention (Swenarton).

3) Correspondence –

- a) Letter dated 23 December 2010 from Karen Onofri, CTDEP/OLISP to Donald Murphy providing notice that Structures Permit #200701074-MG issued to the Town of Stonington Shellfish Commission for deployment of gear associated with the scallop enhancement project will expire on 30 April 2011. Mr. Murphy will consult with Tessa Getchis prior to contacting CTDEP.

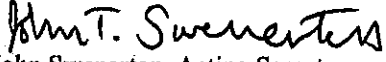
4) Business

- a) Conditional Shellfish Areas – Monitoring reports and sampling results for December 2010 and January 2011 were reviewed. A rain event on 12 December caused closures of Conditional Areas A, B, and Outer Quiambaug. Sampling was conducted on 16 December, with good results reported in Areas A and B, but not Outer Quiambaug where high readings were also noted in samples collected on 28 December, possibly related to numerous waterfowl observed there. Follow-up hard clam meat sampling and water sampling all had good results and Outer Quiambaug was opened in 7 January. A rain event on 18 January forced a 7-day closure of all conditional areas and samples collected on 23 and 31 January all had acceptable results.
- b) Topics from the Shellfish Commission Gathering
- Importing shellfish to Conn. waters - New DA/BA import policy was reviewed:
 - Northern quahog–none from south of NJ
 - Eastern Oysters–RI and MA only if from hatchery; otherwise none from outside NY and LIS
 - Bay scallops–none from outside LIS for direct plant.
 - Reopening Verification Study – A Powerpoint presentation from the meeting was reviewed and discussed. SSC has already conducted some meat sampling as required by the Connecticut Shellfish Sanitation Program Conditionally Approved Areas Reopening Policy. Dave Carey of DABA will give a status report to SSC based on laboratory results provided by Dave Lamoureaux of DABA.
 - Residential Dock Permitting Process – There was discussion of concerns expressed at the gathering regarding public and shellfish commission input to a draft Residential Dock Regulations. The draft regulations remain a work-in-progress and will be made available for public comment once CTDEP management approves it for review.
 - Marina Calculations – An email dated 24 January 2011 from Alissa Dragan (DABA) to Tessa Getchis forwarded through the Conn. Shellfish/Harbor Management Commission ListServ summarizing calculations to determine marina closure areas was reviewed.
- c) Clean Up Stonington Harbor (CUSH) Interest in Shellfish Restoration Projects – Chairman Murphy attended an informal meeting with representatives from CUSH who are interested in learning more about shellfish restoration as a means of cleaning coastal waters, similar to efforts in the Chesapeake Bay. CUSH is considering seeking grants for such a project and it was agreed to continue discussions and collaboration.
- d) Locker Rental at Don's Dock – With only a minor fee increase, SSC will continue renting locker space at Don's Dock. A **motion** was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to allocate \$796.05 for SSC boat winterizing and repairs. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e) Summary of Commercial Activities –Chairman Murphy conducted additional research on remuneration fee schedule for boat/crew support of SSC projects. He will draft a revised fee schedule with clarified rules and continue to maintain records on boat and crew times accrued by individual aquaculturists and provide periodic status report to them.

5) New Business – none

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Raffo made a **motion** to adjourn, which Mr. Banister provided a second. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectively submitted,


John Swenarton, Acting Secretary