

**STONINGTON SHELLFISH COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**6 October 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. Alan Banister, Mr. John Swenarton; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
- 2) Review and approval of minutes – A **Motion** by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Swenarton to approve the September 7, 2011 regular meeting minutes as written was passed unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence
  - a) Letter dated September 7, 2011 from Steve Plant, CT Cultured Oysters to Donald Murphy, SSC re: intent to lease an additional 2 acres adjacent to current lease AQP 07-2008-2018 (B2) and request to plant oysters on expanded parcel in the upcoming weeks.
  - b) Letter dated September 27, 2011 from Steve Plant, CT Cultured Oysters to SSC re: formal request to amend current lease agreement AQP 07-2008-2018 (B2).
- 4) Business
  - a) Conditional Shellfish Areas – All conditional areas were closed for the entire month of September. Approved areas were opened on September 17. Meat and water samples collected on September 19 all had good analytical results. Results from samples collected by DA/BA on September 26 were generally not good, possibly due astronomically high tides. Area A was opened on October 2 and Outer Quiambaug will open in the next day or two. Permit sales for 2011 were reviewed; as of October 4, 733 permits have been sold, bringing in \$10,111.
  - b) Report of re-stocking conditional areas with hard clams – Restocking was conducted in Area A on October 1, 2011, with total of 130 bags of hard clams (~22,000 individuals) distributed on the bottom.
  - c) Shellfish boat – The SSC boat was involved in a minor collision with a moored sailboat, which sustained a small amount of damage. There was no damage to the SSC boat. The owner of the sailboat was contacted and an estimate on the cost of repairs is expected soon. The Town Director of Administrative Services has been contacted to determine how the repairs will be covered.
  - d) Set the time and location for regular meetings in 2012 – tabled.
  - e) Update on the study of shellfish and submerged aquatic vegetation in Little Narragansett Bay – Mr. Banister provided a summary. He spoke to the Pine Pt. School class about SSC activities and goals and how this work will help SSC manage clam resources in this area. Weekend sampling trips are planned for Oct 15 and 22 and SSC members are invited to participate. Mr. Banister made a **motion** that was seconded by Mr. Swenarton and approved unanimously to purchase a set of clam tongs for \$75 for meat sampling and to loan to Pine Pt. School for the LNB study.
  - f) Update on preparations and prospects for 2011-2012 scallop season in Stonington waters – National Marine Fisheries Service diver surveys found fewer scallops than expected in LNB, Stonington Harbor, and Outer Quiambaug Cove. Mr. Raffo did some spotting in LNB and only observed 1 scallop. Steve Plant reported that a diver saw numerous scallops in the Mystic River. Mr. Swenarton made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Banister, to expend \$53 to print scallop permits. The motion was approved unanimously.

- g) Request by Connecticut Cultured Oysters to change the southern boundary of the area covered under licensing agreement AQP-07-2008-2018 – Mr. Plant has requested extending the southern boundary by ~100 m south and the east boundary ~100 m east and provided coordinates for the expanded area. Mr. Murphy will add the new coordinates to the SSC GIS maps and calculate total acreage for the expanded parcel. A **motion** to amend the existing license as requested was made by Mr. Banister, seconded by Mr. Swenarton, and approved unanimously.
  - h) Summary of commercial activities
    - i) Review of remuneration status – Spreadsheets to track remuneration by aquaculturists were reviewed.
- 5) New Business – none.
- 6) Adjournment - With no further business to discuss, Mr. Banister made a **motion** to adjourn, which Mr. Swenarton provided a second. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectively submitted,

  
John Swenarton, Acting Secretary