



**Town of Stonington**  
**Shellfish Commission**  
152 Elm Street Stonington, CT 06378

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2011

7:00 PM

A special 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) Call to order - Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of November 3, 2011 - A **motion** made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Swenarton to approve the minutes as amended (one minor typographical error) was approved unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence
  - a) A letter dated 9 November 2011 from Paul C. Watts, Mystic Shellfish, to SSC stating that he conducted no shellfishing or harvesting during 2011 due to a combination of bad weather and lengthy closures of harvesting areas, but plans to be shellfishing in 2012.
- 4) Business
  - a) Conditional Shellfishing Areas - Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island - Testing results from samples collected on 2 and 15 November 2011 were all good and all conditional beds were reopened on 6 November. Results from samples collected on 30 November were generally good with the exception of marginally unacceptable results from Outer Quiambaug. Follow-up sampling on 5 and 12 December had good analytical results and all conditional beds were reopened on 15 December.
  - b) Review Shellfish Commission's 2011 permit sales, income and expenditures - SSC boat winterizing expenses and Warden Motherway's time report were reviewed. Mr. Raffo provided a review of permit sales income and expenses for 2011. Expenses exceeded income by \$373.
  - c) Set regulations and permit fees for the 2012 recreational shellfishing season
    - i) Discuss modifying Scallop Regulation #3. Per boat limit. - After some discussion, a **motion** was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to delete the second sentence in Scallop Regulation #3 which states: "If two or more persons are in a boat, the daily limit is two bushels per boat and at least two persons must be carrying valid permits". The motion was approved unanimously.
    - ii) Discuss allowing active duty military personnel to purchase Clam/Oyster permits for the Stonington resident fee regardless of their home of record - Following discussion, a **motion** made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister to adopt this proposed regulation amendment was approved unanimously.

Another **motion** was made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister to maintain all other 2011 shellfishing fees and regulation for 2012.

- d) Discuss budget request for Town of Stonington 2012-2013 fiscal year – A **motion** by Mr. Raffo, seconded by Mr. Banister, to submit a \$50 SSC budget request for FY 2012-13 was approved unanimously.
  - e) Commercial shellfishing reports, review of remuneration, and discussion – Jim Markow is planning on dredging clams in December from Area C for transplant to Area A to meet his remuneration commitment. Fred Emery was in attendance to present a proposal to conduct wild harvesting of hard clams via hand dredging. He was given a map of suitable areas and an application that he will complete and send to Mr. Murphy for 2012.
- 5) Adjournment – With no further business to discuss, a **motion** to adjourn was made by Mr. Hillegass, seconded by Mr. Banister and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectively submitted,

  
John Swenarton, Acting Secretary