



## SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 9, 2013  
7:00 PM

A special meeting of the Stonington Shellfish Commission (SSC) was held on this date at the Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm Street, Stonington, CT. Voting members present were Mr. Alan Banister, Mr. Don Raffo, Mr. John Swenarton, Mr. Steve Brown; Acting Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman

- 1) Call to order Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 4, 2013.

A motion was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to approve the April 4, 2013 regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 3) Correspondence

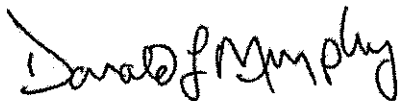
Memo dated May 3, 2013 from Ms. Maryanna Stevens, Finance Director, to Mr. Donald Murphy, Stonington Shellfish Commission, re: end of fiscal year purchase orders.

- 4) Business

- a) Conditional Shellfishing Areas- Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island- All conditional beds were opened for the entire month of April due to lack of rainfall. Area B was closed for the boating season on May 1, 2013 in accordance with the MOU between the SSC and the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture (DABA).
- b) Sampling requirements for Stonington's approved areas- DABA has not been able to keep up with the monitoring (data collection) of Stonington's approved areas due to maintenance issues with their boats. SSC has concerns for potential closing of the approved areas due to the lack of testing data; eight tests at nine sites need to be completed to meet standards established by the DABA. The SSC agreed to assist with collecting samples at these nine stations, in house, by December 2013 to avoid potential closure of the beds. Mr. Rob Russell, the new shellfish warden will collect the samples on his rounds and samples will be delivered to Ms. Shannon Kelly at the DABA. After 2013, the SSC is expecting a return to the status quo by having the DABA test these stations.
- c) Mr. Raffo made a motion to allocate \$3500 for buying clams to re-stock conditional areas. The motion was seconded by Mr. Banister and was approved unanimously.
- d) Discuss guidance given to recreational harvesters on how to avoid illness due to Vibrio- Mr. Russell will talk to the harvesters about harvesting clams while on his rounds and Mr. Murphy will post the DABA memo concerning Vibrio at locations where clam licenses can be purchased by recreational harvesters.

- e) Mr. Raffo made a motion to allocate up to \$1000 to prepare the commission boat for launching. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swenarton and was approved unanimously.
  - f) Mr. Murphy stated that it is not likely that the SSC will be using the bottom bags and buoy lines constructed during the scallop aquaculture project several years ago. Currently, they are occupying locker space at Don's Dock. Mr. Steve Plant (Connecticut Oysters) agreed to inspect them and advise the SSC on their disposition.
  - g) Discuss plans for a meeting with EPA LISS's Habitat Restoration Workgroup; tabled due to absence of Ms. Tessa Getchis.
  - h) Review of new shellfish informational handout; map for the trifold and regulations, etc.- Mr. Murphy is working to improve the map.
  - i) Update on finances- No bills, remuneration status spreadsheets were the same as last month, and there is enough money to fund clams and the SSC boat.
  - j) Commercial shellfishing report- Mr. Plant reported that he intends to apply for a Stonington license to use one acre within the newly established Mystic Harbor Seasonal Conditionally Approved Area for direct winter harvesting. Mr. Plant also discussed possible future implications of a marine virus called male specific bacteriophages.
- 5) Adjournment- With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Banister, seconded by Mr. Raffo and approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectively submitted,



Donald L. Murphy  
Chairman