



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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 5, 2013
7 PM

A regular 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; Secretary, Mr. Don Murphy; Chairman.

- 1) Call to order Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM
- 2) Review and approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 6th. and August 1, 2013.
 - a) A motion was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to approve the June 6, 2013 regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - b) A motion was made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister to approve the August 1, 2013 regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 3) Correspondence –None to report
- 4) Business
 - a) **Conditioning Shellfishing Areas- Outer Quiambaug Cove and East Mason's Island**
All conditional beds were open for the month of August until they were closed on August 27th because of an inch of rainfall. Water testing on August 28th yielded good results.
 - b) **Update on the new seasonally conditional shellfishing area in Mystic River**
The amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be finalized once the requisite signatures have been obtained.
 - c) **Discuss whether to re-stock conditional areas in October.** The SSC decided to re-stock the conditional areas in October. A motion was made by Mr. Swenarton and seconded by Mr. Banister to allocate \$3000 for the purchase of clams. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - d) **Enforcement.** Shellfish Warden Russell has been patrolling. He requested that a no clamming sign be posted on the north end of Sandy Point as a reminder to the general public. Chairman Murphy has a sign that will be placed on Sandy Point.
 - e) **Equipment- update on work on the shellfish boat.** The cosmetic work on the boat will be pushed back to next year. A motion was made by Mr. Raffo and seconded by Mr. Banister to allocate \$350 for the purchase of hand-held GPS for the boat. The motion was approved unanimously. Warden Russell will research the available GPS units and will make a recommendation on which model to purchase.

- f) **Discuss the purchase of shirts for warden and commission.** The SSC decided to purchase shirts with the SSC logo in order to clearly differentiate the warden and other SSC members from the general public when patrolling and/or re-stocking the clam beds. A motion was made by Mr. Swenarton and seconded by Mr. Raffo to reimburse Warden Russell \$194.12 for the purchase of shirts, and hats. The motion was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to allocate \$250 for shirts with logos for each SSC member. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - g) **Set opening date for 2013/2014 scallop season; set regulations and fees.** The opening date for scallop season will be Saturday October 12, 2013 through March 31, 2014. A motion was made by Mr. Swenarton and seconded by Mr. Banister that the fees and regulations will remain the same as last year. The motion was approved unanimously.
 - h) **Update on finances; collections, bills, and remuneration-** Permit sales were reviewed as well as the bill for the re-stocking of clams that took place in August. Remuneration spreadsheets were reviewed with Aeros Oyster Company, Connecticut Cultured Oysters, and Stonington Farms Shellfish all being credited for the re-stocking of clams on August 24, 2013.
 - i) **Commercial shellfishing; reports and discussions.** Mr. Banister will ask Mr. Mitchell, of Pine Point School, whether or not he is using the remaining bottom bags located at the school. If not, Mr. Banister will deliver them to Connecticut Cultured Oysters for them to utilize in their operations.
- 5) **New Business-** Mr. Banister was concerned about the continued absence of one SSC member and requested a letter be sent by Chairman Murphy to the member expressing concern about the past and future commitment to the SSC. Mr. Murphy stated that he had been in contact with the SSC member and that the member did expect to attend future meetings.
- 6) **Adjournment-** A motion was made by Mr. Banister and seconded by Mr. Raffo to adjourn the meeting as there was no further business to discuss. The motion was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectively submitted,



Steve Brown, Secretary