



**Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2017

Waterford Town Hall, 7:30 pm



Members present: J. Patrick Kelly, Paul Spakowski, Tom Bowlen, Peter Harris and Eric Kanter

Absent: Fred Grimsey, Larry Tytla and Rich Miller

Guests: Chief Rich Chmiel, Lou Bull of Hillyer's Tackle and Lauren Gauthier of Normand Bloom and Sons

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm after a quorum established.
- 2) The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed. The minutes were accepted on a motion by P. Kelly, seconded by P. Spakowski; all in favor; motion passed.
- 3) Treasurer's report for March was reviewed including the financials on a motion by E. Kanter, seconded by P. Spakowski; all in favor; motion passed. P. Kelly noted the Public budget hearing's for the Town's will be held in East Lyme on April 24<sup>th</sup> and in Waterford on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.
- 4) Chief Warden's Report-
  - The shellfishing areas are currently open.
  - The weather has been good and there are plenty of clams in Areas A and B.
  - Chief Chmiel is planning to take the monthly samples Monday.
  - The warden's boat is due for an oil change.
  - Chief Chmiel requested more copies of the shellfishing rules and regulations.
  - The new rain gauge is working well and was installed about 5 ft. high at the warden's trailer storage location. The MOU needs to be updated with regard to new rain gauge and location.
  - Solutions to the fence area where the warden's boat trailer is stored were further discussed.
  - Chief Chmiel asked about a parking sign for WELSCO at the boat launch for the warden's; P. Kelly will contact the Town of Waterford.
- 5) Old Business-
  - a) L. Gauthier reviewed a sampling and courier proposal that was recently discussed at a meeting of Noank Aquaculture where the Towns' of Stonington and Waterford shellfish commissioners attended. They further discussed the idea and cost splitting of a service. She suggested a meeting be held at Noank Aquaculture in the near future where the DA/BA would also attend to discuss the proposal and also address sites and sampling issues directly with the area shellfish commissions.
- 6) New Business-
  - a) The Chief Warden is not an appointed position.
  - b) The commission discussed pay raises for the Chief Warden, Warden Bridgman and the Secretary; he noted there have been no raises since 2015. Motion by P. Kelly to increase Chief Warden and Secretary by 5 % and Warden Bridgman by 7%; seconded by E. Kanter; all in favor, motion passed.
  - c) At the Annual Shellfish Gathering P. Harris had submitted list service questions to other Shellfish commissions. The items involved the DEEP permit consultation form, steamer clam harvesting and Whelk regulations. He reviewed the feedback he received with the commission.

FILED

APR 24 2017 AT 11:45 AM/PM  
 (Lauren Gauthier) ar  
 EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

7) Correspondence

- a) E. Kanter was contacted by Jesse Baldwin regarding an Oyster restoration project he'd like to discuss at a future WELSCO meeting.
- b) The Niantic River Watershed commission has proposed grants for improving water quality of which one pertains specifically to oyster restoration. P. Harris attends these meetings and stated they plan to work with WELSCO on this project.

8) Ex Officio Comments – none

9) Public Input – Lou Bull stated his time out on the water has been great and he is getting his limit.

10) The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm on a motion by P. Spakowski.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tinker  
Secretary

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WELSCO

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