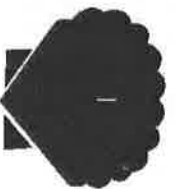


## Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday October 18, 2018  
Waterford Town Hall, 7:30 pm



Members present: Peter Harris, Tom Bowlen, Paul Spakowski, Larry Tytla, J. Patrick Kelly & Elizabeth Gelinas  
Absent: Eric Kanter and Fred Grimsey  
Guests: Chief Warden Richard Chmiel and Attorney Robert Avena -Town of Waterford

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm and a quorum established.
- 2) The Secretary's minutes of the September 20, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Kelly, (1) abstain- Ms. Gelinas, vote 5 to 1; motion passed.  
  
Motion by Mr. Spakowski seconded by Mr. Bowlen to add approval of the August 16, 2018 minutes to the Agenda, all in favor, motion passed.  
  
The Secretary's minutes of the August 16, 2018 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, all in favor, motion passed.
- 3) The Treasurer's report for August 16, 2018 was reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, Seconded by Ms. Gelinas, all in favor, motion passed.

The Treasurer's report for September 20, 2018 was reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, Bowlen, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, all in favor, motion passed.

#### 4) Chief Warden's Report-

- a) Clamming areas are currently closed.
- b) Boat running well.
- c) Groton Shellfish Commission is back in the relay for delivery of samples.
- d) Chief agrees with the reports from residents that almost no scallops are in the river.
- e) As Niantic Bay Boat Valet is up for auction, a motor can no longer be purchased from them.

OCT 23 2018 AT 3:15 AM/PM  
FILED  
WILLIAM TOWN CLERK

#### 5) Old Business-

- a) Chair Harris reported that at the Board of Selectman meeting in Waterford this week they did not vote in favor of amendments to the 2002 WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement. Chair Harris met with East Lyme First Selectman Mark Nickerson. Selectman Nickerson is reviewing the proposed amendments to the 2002 WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement with the East Lyme Town Attorney.

- b) No action was taken on the WELSCO Aquaculture Application submitted by NBSF for Area 2 and 5.

Mr. Kelly suggested using the East Lyme Shellfish Commission's Plan as a guide to review and edit the 2002 WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement. He further advised a joint meeting with the Waterford Harbor Management Commission to discuss items and concerns they have outlined in letters submitted to WELSCO. Attorney Avena agreed and also noted the 2002 WELSCO Aquaculture Policy Statement is a valid document.

Mr. Kelly discussed the prior sources of obtaining scallop seed WELSCO has used in the past.

Mr. Tytla discussed the propagation of shellfish with regard to authorization.

Attorney Robert Avena reviewed a letter received from Attorney Hollister regarding the directive on

jurisdictions and the respective approval from the Town's of East Lyme and Waterford. He stated the Waterford Shellfish Plans permit commercial leases but only with the BOS and RTM approvals. He further reviewed the limitation of leasing within the state statute.

c) A letter was sent to the Waterford Harbor Management Commission relating to specific points on shellfishing within their Harbor Management Plan. There was no further correspondence on this item.

d) Chair Harris opened discussion of having a 2018-19 Scallop Season. Commissioners agreed there is very little scallop being found in the river. Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski that WELSCO would not open a 2018-19 Scallop season, all in favor, motion passed.

e) Chair Harris and Mr. Kelly volunteered to be on the subcommittee to discuss Aquaculture in the Niantic River with the East Lyme Harbor Management. Chair Harris will reach out to the Chair of the Waterford Harbor Management Commission to ascertain if they would like to join.

#### 6) New Business-

a) The 2019 Schedule of Meetings for WELSCO was presented. Motion to approve the 2019 Schedule of Meetings was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, all in favor, motion passed.

b) Compensation increases for the Chief, Warden and Secretary were discussed. Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to approve a 5% increase to the Chief, Warden, and Secretary's hourly rates was made, all in favor, motion passed.

c) Chair Harris reviewed information on experimental projects. He is meeting with Dr. Julie Rose of NOAA for scientific advice.

d) Chair Harris will obtain quotes on purchasing clam stock for the next meeting.

#### 7) Ex-Officio comments- None

#### 8) Correspondence -

- a) CT National Estuarine research reserve public meeting on October 29, 2018 at Avery Point.
- b) Sasco Brook Pollution Abatement is hosting Microbial Source Tracking on November 29, 2018.
- c) NOAA 3 day conference expo will be held on January 9 – 11, 2019.

#### 9) Public Input-

*Tim Londregan- NBSF-* Commented on outreach and education, reviewed state statute, powers of commissions and a modification to the application he submitted to WELSCO.

*Marcia Benvenuti – Waterford* – Commented on scallop sources, runoff, nutrient loading issues and the subcommittee.

*Paul Daversa- Waterford-* Commented on WELSCO establishing a Management Plan, the overdeveloped river, the state statute, pro's and con's of studies and is supportive of shellfishing/seeding and aquaculture projects in the Niantic Bay.

10) The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tinker  
Secretary