



Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 21, 2019
East Lyme Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Members present: Chair Peter Harris, Paul Spakowski, Larry Tytla, J. Patrick Kelly, Elizabeth Gelinias, Eric Kanter, Tom Bowlen and Marcia Benvenuti

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm and a quorum established.
- 2) The Secretary's minutes of the February 21, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, with one abstain; Mr. Tytla, vote 7-0-1 motion passed.

As there were two abstentions not included in the count for approval of the January 2019 meeting minutes the motion to approve did not pass due to the lack of a voting quorum. The January 2019 meeting minutes will be reviewed for approval at next month's meeting.

- 3) The Treasurer's report for February 2019 was reviewed and approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Ms. Gelinias, all in favor, motion passed.
- 4) Chief Warden's report:
 - a) Monthly samples are up to date, river traffic slow.
 - b) Waterford's Jordan Cove will open in April.
 - c) Boat steering cable needs replacing; Chief will get quotes. Boat will need bottom painting.

5) Old Business-

- a) The dock application was reviewed for Mr. Deane of 153 Oswegatchie Rd, Waterford by Keith Neilson of Docko Inc. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski that approval of this application would adversely affect shellfishing in the Niantic river, with one abstain: Mr. Tytla, vote 4-3-1, motion passed.
- b) The dock application was reviewed for Mr. Kozlowski of 30 Bishop St, Waterford by Keith Neilson of Docko Inc. Discussion ensued. Motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Kanter to approve this dock application as it would not adversely affect shellfishing in the Niantic River, with one abstain; Mr. Harris, vote 3-4-1, motion failed.
- c) Chair Harris will inquire on a set of By-laws that WELSCO did not approve/file but were filed in 2018 with the Town of Waterford.

6) New Business-

- a) Chair Harris spoke with James Markow of Aeros Oyster on stocking oysters in the Niantic River. Mr. Kelly suggested discussing growing out scallop seed with Aeros Oyster. Members discussed restocking options.
- b) Members discussed Mr. Kanter's suggestion on hiring an environmental consultant to create a management plan.

7) Ex-Officio comments-

none

8) Correspondence -

- a) WELSCO received an application for a Scientific/Resource Assessment License that was submitted to DA/BA by Timothy Londregan III owner of Niantic Bay Shellfish Farm to collect 100 mature native Niantic Bay scallops for the sole purpose of spawning from the Niantic River. Chair Harris noted that Mr. Londregan submitted this application last year and WELSCO had approved it. A motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla to add this item to the Agenda. Members discussed the application and a motion was made by Mr. Kanter, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to approve Niantic Bay Shellfish Farm owned by Timothy

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Londregan III to remove 100 scallops as requested in the application for Scientific/Resource Assessment License, all in favor, motion passed.

b) Millstone notified the commission they will begin environmental monitoring in the river and will harvest 20 to 30 clams as part of the program. WELSCO will receive a copy of the final report when the project is complete.

c) The NOAA website had a March 13th Fish News publication with informative articles on an Oyster project in the Chesapeake Bay and on Aquaculture conflict and resolution. A copy will be sent to the members of WELSCO.

d) Chair Harris noted a permit application that WELSCO had negatively commented on received a notice of insufficiency from DEEP.

e) An article on the Sound was recently posted in The Day newspaper.

9) Public Input—

Fred Wise- Waterford-Inquired about dragging clams in the river.

Michael Johnson- Niantic-Inquired on shellfishing protocol.

10) Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Bowlen.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tinker
Secretary