



# Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 16, 2019  
East Lyme Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Members present: Chair Peter Harris, Elizabeth Gelinias, Larry Tytla, Tom Bowlen and Marcia Benvenuti

Members absent: Paul Spakowski, J. Patrick Kelly and Eric Kanter

Guests: Chief Chmiel and Dan Cunningham-Ex Officio

FILED

May 20 2019 AT 3:05 AM/PM  
Larry Tytla  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm and a quorum established.
- 2) The Secretary's minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Tytla to approve, motion passed, (2) abstentions: Mr. Tytla and Mr. Bowlen, vote 3-2.
- 3) The Treasurer's report for April 2019 was reviewed. Motion by Mr. Tytla, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti to approve, motion passed, vote 5-0.
- 4) Chief Wardens Report:
  - a) Currently the river is closed for shellfishing; samples were taken on 5.17.19.
  - b) The boat's steering is scheduled for repair after Memorial Day.
  - c) The new buoys were installed.
  - d) Currently there are no open fuel stations on the Niantic River.
- 5) Old Business-
  - a) Discussion of the By-laws was postponed; they are currently being reviewed by Robert Avena, Waterford Town Attorney.
  - b) There was discussion on price and types of stock the commission could purchase from Jim Bloom. Members further discussed benefits, areas to replenish and increased cost. Motion by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Ms. Gelinias to spend \$2,000.00 for the purchase of clam stock from Jim Bloom, motion passed, vote 5-0.
  - c) Discussion of a Shellfish Management Plan was postponed.
- 6) New Business-
  - a) A dock application for Kent and Leah Ward of 5 Riverside Drive, Waterford was presented by Bob Conigliaro of Gerwick Mercen. Motion by Mr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Gelinias to approve the application finding it would not adversely affect shellfishing; motion passed, vote 5-0.
- 7) Ex-Officio comments-  
The Town of East Lyme is monitoring containment of run off into the estuary in Black Point area due to the recent business fire on West Main St. Niantic.
- 8) Correspondence -
  - a) Mr. Harris reviewed the response received from Mr. Londregan of NBSF on the scallop spawning project the past two years in the Niantic River.
  - b) Mr. Harris met with Dan Steward, First Selectman of Waterford and local businessmen to discuss a potential oyster project in the Niantic River. There was no official plan presented or application submitted.
  - c) Mr. Harris attended the LIS Blue Plan meeting. The plan will be a guide containing information on competing activities in areas of the sound in 10 feet of water or deeper. For more information go to [ct.gov/deep](http://ct.gov/deep) where you can watch videos about the plan by

selecting *LIS Blue plan* from the current topics section.

9) Public Input–

*Fred Wise-Waterford*: Inquired on transplanting of clams from one area to another in the river.

10) The WELSCO meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm on a motion by Mr. Tytla, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Tinker  
Secretary