



Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Oct 21, 2021
Waterford Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Members present: Chair Peter Harris, J. Patrick Kelly, Eric Kanter, Marcia Benvenuti, Larry Tytla, Paul Spakowski, Tom Bowlen, and Fred Wise
Members absent: none
Guests: none

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm and a quorum established.
- 2) Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:
Sep 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes – Minutes approved following a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, vote 8-0.
- 3) Review and approval of treasurer's report
Treasurer's report given by Mr. Kelly reviewed by the commission. Treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla, vote 8-0.
- 4) Chief Warden's Comments : Mr. Harris relayed the Warden report to the commission which was sent to him by Chief Warden Chmiel.
- 5) Old business:
 - a. Update on insurance policies and workers comp (WC) coverage – Mr. Wise will work with Mr. Kelly and Mr. Harris to provide warden information to the Waterford Town attny for possible solutions for WELSCO insurance. This action was approved on a motion by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, motion approved 7-1 (Mr. Kanter opposed).
 - b. Mr. Kelly reported the financial review is almost complete.
 - c. Mr. Wise reported that 20,000 oysters were placed in the Niantic River on Saturday October 16. The commission thanks Mr. Bowlen, Mr. Tytla, Mr. Wise, Chief Warden Chmiel, and Warden Keltonic for their assistance with the distribution.
 - d. Discussion on the repair plan of the Waterford town dock continued. Mr. Harris updated the commission on the dock repair status, Mr. Harris met with a few marine contractors and is awaiting quotes on the dock repair/replacement.
 - e. Mr. Wise and Ms. Benvenuti updated the commission on the new permit fees and regulations. A motion was made by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla to 1. Raise the senior citizen age to 65, 2. Set the daily oyster limit at 30 oysters, 3. Raise the annual resident fee to \$50 and the annual non-resident fee to \$75. Motion was approved 7-1 (Mr. Kanter opposed).
- 6) New Business
 - a. Dock application for 27 Oswegatchie Rd, Waterford CT was presented by Docko, Inc. The dock application was found to not adversely impact shellfish, approved on a

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Oct 25 20 21 AT 8:40 AM/PM
Karen Chmiel
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

motion by Mr. Kanter, seconded by Mr. Wise, approved 6-1 (Mr. Spakowski opposed, Mr. Tytla abstained).

- b. Mr. Harris briefed the commission on a future project by UCONN to study the potential benefits of iron on juvenile eelgrass in the Niantic River.

7) Ex-Officio comments : Ex-Officio Cunningham not present.

8) Correspondence : no other correspondence was presented that was not previously discussed during the meeting.

9) Public Comment :

Bob DeRosa, Niantic River Rd, Waterford CT – described a proliferation of aquatic vegetation in the Keeney Cove area of the Niantic River. He provided photos and a preliminary identification of *Agardhiella subulate*. Mr. Harris will contact UCONN, SeaGrant, DA/BA to see if it is of concern.

10) Adjournment : Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Tytla, motion approved 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Harris

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