



Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Oct 17, 2024
Waterford Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Members present: Peter Harris, J Patrick Kelly, Larry Tytla, Marcia Benvenuti, Peter Spakowski, Tom Bowlen, and Fred Wise.
Members absent: Rick Kanter
Guests: Chief Warden Chmiel, ex-officio Don Mackenzie

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- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and a quorum established.
- 2) Review and approval of previous meeting minutes:
Aug 15, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes approved on a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Tytla, vote 7-0.
- 3) Review and approval of treasurer's report
Mr. Kelly reviewed the Treasurer's report sent by e-mail earlier. Report was approved on a motion by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Mr. Wise, vote 7-0.
- 4) Chief Warden's Comments : Chief Warden Chmiel gave his report to the commission.
- 5) Old business: Oysters were distributed in late September. Mr. Harris thanked Chief Warden Chmiel, Mr. Tytla, and Mr. Wise for the oyster distribution that day.
- 6) New Business
 - a. Dock application for 82 Quarry Dock Rd, Niantic. Mr. DeBartolomeo from Docko presented the project to the commission. Mr. Spakowski made a motion that this project would adversely impact shellfishing, the motion was not seconded. Mr. Wise made a motion that this dock project would not adversely impact shellfishing, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti, motion approved 5-1 (Mr. Spakowski opposed, Mr. Bowlen abstained).
 - b. Discussion and potential action on a scallop season. The commission heard from several people from the public (listed below in Public Comment section) all in favor of having a scallop season. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to hold an annual scallop season from Nov 15 to Jan 31 from 8 am to sunset on each day. Motion approved 7-0. Mr. Kelly will work to have permits printed and Mr. Harris will work on the public announcement if deemed necessary.
 - c. Discussion and potential action for combining East Lyme Shellfish areas and WELSCO shellfish areas. Discussion ensued. Motion made by Mr. Spakowski, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti to not combine the areas, motion passed 7-0. Mr. Harris will relay this decision to the Chair of the East Lyme Harbor Management/Shellfish Commission.
 - d. Discussion and potential action on annual funding request from East Lyme and Waterford. Motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Spakowski to request \$1 from each town. Motion passed 7-0.
- 7) Ex-Officio comments: Mr. Mackenzie discussed the Fair rent commission and a potential open space land purchase.
- 8) Correspondence : Mr. Harris communicated to the commission by the Town of Waterford the request for the Annual report from each commission. Mr. Harris will prepare the report and present to the commission at the next meeting prior to submission to the town.

9) Public Comment : The following individuals spoke in favor of a scallop season:

- a. Mike Stepsky, 892 Vauxhall Ex, Quaker Hill
- b. Glen Andrews, Niamanda Court, Montville
- c. Anthony Semiterro, 22 5th St, Waterford
- d. Henry Appleton, 16 Bird Ave, East Longmeadow MA
- e. Michael Wadsworth, 11 Locust CT, Waterford
- f. Tim Londregan, 39 Grenada Terr, New London

10) Adjournment : Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm on a motion by Ms. Benvenuti, seconded by Mr. Spakowski, motion approved 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Harris