



Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission Meeting

January 10, 2017

Present: Roger Bowgen Chairman, Sue Baker, Bill Cameron, Joan Seguin, Jonathan Stone

Absent: Rick Kral, Sarah Crosby, Bill Grempe

Guests: Michael Long, Jardar Nygaard, Steven Schafer

The meeting began at 5:40 pm.

Minutes: The minutes from the October 11, 2016 and November 15, 2016 meetings were approved unanimously. Meeting dates for 2017 were passed out and approved by all.

Shellfish Commissions Meeting: Roger said that the Annual Gathering of Shellfish Commissions will be held on January 21, 2017 in New Haven. Anyone interested in attending needs to let him know.

Treasurer: Bill Grempe was not present.

Coordinator's Report: Jonathan assisted Kim and Bill on a short run earlier in the day. The boat is docked at Grass Island Marina now due to the dredging in Cos Cob Harbor. Roger expressed a deep appreciation for what the boat crew has been doing to get the samples necessary for the program, including going out in the evening hours and harsh weather.

UCONN agreement: Roger handed out information on a Bioblitz event that UCONN is looking to do. Roger explained that a Bioblitz is an intense biological survey of an area that involves many people – volunteers, schools, associations. Roger said that he would like to get the word out on twitter and facebook. Sue Baker made a motion – That the Shellfish Commission consider funding an IT person to assist with the web-based promotions and Roger will pursue. The motion was seconded and carried by all.

NOAA update: Roger reported that NOAA is hoping to complete their study in the third quarter of 2017.

Billion Oyster Project: Roger mentioned that they are considering working with the Commission. Sue said that she took them to the areas that were recently seeded with oysters (Land Trust Parcel and the Weir project) to show them what the Commission has been up to.

Jardar Nygaard – Oyster Cages: Jardar said that about 150 bushels of cultch has been placed in weir area and they need about 500 total. Jardar and Steve feel they could be finished placing the cultch by next Tuesday. After that he will look to place about 50 bushels of oysters from the area of Chimney Corners into the weir pond. Roger mentioned that with the oysters that have been placed off Greenwich Point there could be a good summer shellfishing area.

Ed Stilwagen/ACF: Roger reported that Ed Stilwagen has been farming his clam areas and has placed some clams in Area C.

Oyster Assessment Permit: Jardar said that he will need a survey permit for East and West Field Point as well as Greenwich Harbor.

First Sunday Science @ Innis Arden Cottage: Roger said that he is looking to get people from OCearch to do a shark talk on March 25, 2017. Roger said that the Emsway Boating Safety Day will be on May 21, 2017 and will be in the clam bake area due to the large turnout that showed up last time (450 people).

Wardens: Bill Cameron handed out the warden list. Bill mentioned that folks should use a common sense approach to wardening – if the weather is harsh it is not necessary to perform the wardening duties.

Innis Arden Cottage Clean-up /Wi-Fi: Roger said that he will need some containers for storage at the cottage. He will look some up and send the information to Michael Long. Roger mentioned that the Wi-Fi at the cottage needs to be addressed and options need to be looked at.

Harbor Management Commission: Roger reported that the dredging of the Cos Cob harbor is complete.

Experience the Sound: Roger noted that he had received approval from Parks and Rec for the date of the event and he will be working on getting letters out the vendors.

New Business: None

The next meeting will be held on February 14, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Josephine Evaristo Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned @ 6:25PM.

Michael Long