



**Draft**  
Shellfish Commission January 14, 2020  
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: - Sue Baker, Steven Kinner, Jonathan Stone, Devan Shulby, Rick Kral, Joan Tracy Sequin, William Grempp

Absent – Roger Bowgen, Bill Cameron

Guests - Chris Coccaro – Consultant, Steve Schafer - Stellamar Oysters, Michael Long – Gw Health

The meeting began at 5:33 pm

The November 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved

Treasurers report – Bill Grempp said that a budget of \$50,000 was submitted for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Coordinators report – Steve reported that he did a run with NOAA last Wednesday and a sampling run last Thursday. Aquaculture will arrange to review sampling methods with Commission members soon. The boat engine replacement is waiting on approval of the money from the RTM.

UCONN PFA Study – Joan, Sue, Jon, Bill Grempp and Sara Coccaro (Conservation) met with Chris Perkins from UCONN today to review the sampling procedures. Thirteen samples will be taken along the coast. All together water, soil and tissue samples will be taken in the spring (end of March, early April). Jonathan said that when taking soil samples with the box corer care will need to be taken to avoid damaging the boat.

NOAA oyster project in Greenwich Cove – Sue said that the sampling was completed in December 2019.

GSC/Atlantic Clam Farms Clam operations – Sue said that Ed Stilwagen is working with the Town and RACE on the Greenwich Harbor channel dredging project to move clams out prior to the start of dredging. Ed is working on a plan for his company.

Stellamar – A draft plan has been submitted to the Commission for his work. A motion was made to confirm the latest draft and approved by all.

Steve Schafer mentioned that East Lyme is having issues with their Shellfish Commission and wanted to thank the Greenwich Commission for the work they do.

Oyster Hats – Joan mentioned that the Fairfield Shellfish Commission is using oyster hats to promote oyster growth in their beds. They are suspended from rebar in the sediment in the intertidal zone. Joan is waiting to hear about the whole process. Steve Shafer thought that Chimney Corners would be a good location for this. Rick thought that based on the pictures shown it may not be accepted in that area. Joan mentioned that Fairfield had a good amount of community involvement in the program.

GSC/BOP Summer Education Project at Innis Arden Cottage – Sue went over last year's event. It was overseen by Greenwich High School interns over an 8-week period one day each week. The students were kids from the day camp at Greenwich Point. Greenwich Country Day School (GCDS) High School is working with the Billion Oyster Project @ Lucas Point, so far, they have deployed a cage of oysters.

Lucas Point Oyster seeding – They are trying to organize with the community.

Edgewater Road – This is a similar project to the Lucas Point project and are looking for input and approval from Dave Carey from Aquaculture.

Experience the Sound – The date of June 21, 2020 has been approved by the Town. Sue is looking for dates for a shellfish demonstration. Discussion followed and they are currently looking at having one on March 14, 2020 with a rain date of March 15, 2020. Rick suggested the Commission try to connect with the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts or similar group to get a bigger crowd.

Shellfish sign keys – Michael reported that one of the locks was replaced and both the Caretaker at the Point and Steve Kinner have sets of keys

New Business – Joan mentioned that the Bureau of Aquaculture is reevaluating seasonal shellfish beds in mooring fields. If there is a low amount of boating activity the beds could remain open through the season. The commission would need to provide Aquaculture with information. Joan also mentioned that Fairfield Shellfish Commission is doing DNA testing to determine the source of bacteria affecting some of their beds.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

Michael Long