



Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission Meeting

April 11, 2017

Present: Sue Baker, Bill Grempe, Joan Seguin

Absent: Roger Bowgen Chairman, Sarah Crosby, Bill Cameron, Rick Kral, Jonathan Stone

Guests: Michael Long, Kim Bruce, Jay Loudon, Jennifer Turiano (Greenwich Time Reporter)

The meeting began at 5:40 pm.

Minutes: The minutes from the March 21, 2017 meeting were not approved due to the lack of a quorum.

Treasurer: Bill Grempe reported that the Commission has over \$300,000 in the receipt account. Sue mentioned that there is a meeting on April 27, 2017 for members of Town Commissions. Sue said if members have not gone it is an informative meeting. Joan said she will try to attend.

Coordinator's Report: Jay said that both he and Jay were assisting DABA, EPA and the FDA last week with their dye study of the Greenwich Wastewater Treatment Plant. Jay took people on the shellfish boat and towed a fluorometer behind the boat. The fluorometer was connected to a computer which collected the data. The purpose of the study is to quantify the dispersion of effluent from the treatment plant and its impacts on shellfish. Kim said that he assisted with placing oyster cages with fluorometers at eight different locations. Kim said that the FDA commented that the Shellfish boat was very organized. Jay said that the final report on the study will take about two months and that the last study of this type was performed in 1984.

UCONN BioBlitz: Sue said that the dates for the Bioblitz will be September 15 and 16, 2017. Gina Gould will be working on putting the programs together but will be looking to get school and scout troops to participate. Sue said that the talk at the Bruce Museum on Great White Sharks was well attended. The next talk will be on whales in Long Island Sound and then a third talk will be discussing giant squid.

Demonstration: Sue said that the demonstration on April 1, 2017 had to be cancelled due to weather, the next possible dates would be April 22 or 23rd. Sue said she will talk with Bill Cameron to see if either date works for him.

Jardar Nygaard/Ed Stilwagen: Neither Ed nor Jardar are present.

Oyster Seeding: Sue mentioned that the oyster seeding was extended to April 15, 2017. Michael said that Jardar was the only shellfisherman participating in April based on calls he received.

Weir project: Sue reported that some of the cultch that Jardar has placed has washed out of the weir with the tidal cycles but there is a good portion that remains. Sue mentioned that Jardar needs to set a date for completion.

Emsway Boating Safety Day: Sue 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 – the Shellfish Commission will be sponsoring a raw bar.

New Commission Member: Sue said that there are a couple of people interested in the position and that Roger will be interviewing someone at the end of the month. Joan said she met someone who might be interested and told him to come to a shellfish demonstration.

Innis Arden Cottage: Sue mentioned that a date to clean-up the second floor of the cottage needs to be scheduled. Joan suggested the date of the demonstration (4/22 or 23) as an option.

Experience the Sound: The date is set for 6/25/2017 from 1 pm to 4 pm.

UCONN Testing: Sue said that UCONN will be looking to do testing of heavy metals and pesticides in organisms and water. They are in the process of obtaining a grant for this.

Byram Estuary: Sue said that she and Sarah will work to get baseline data in the area.

New Business: Jennifer Turiano asked what the Commission would know about the Blue Plan Committee for Long Island Sound. She had heard that a shellfisherman from Branford had some concerns about jurisdiction lines affecting shellfish beds. Sue told her to contact Denise Savageau from Conservation and is on the Blue Plan Committee

The next meeting will be held on May 9, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Josephine Evaristo Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Michael Long