



# Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission Meeting

May 9, 2017

**Present:** Roger Bowgen Chairman, Sarah Crosby, Sue Baker, Bill Grempe, Joan Seguin, Bill Cameron, Jonathan Stone

**Absent:** Rick Kral

**Guests:** Michael Long, Kim Bruce, Jay Louden, Jennifer Turiano (Greenwich Time Reporter), Michael Aurelia, Rick Margenot, Marija Mikolajczak, Jane Kochersperger

The meeting began at 5:37 pm.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the March 21, 2017 and April 11, 2017 meetings were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer:** Bill Grempe reported that the Commission has \$375,000 in the receipt account.

**Coordinator's Report:** Kim reported that they did a full sample run on May 8, 2017 and a short sampling run was completed last week. They dropped the boat off at Beacon Point to get looked at for the transducer and a vibration they were noticing.

**Fracking Waste Water:** Jay Louden introduced his associates with Greenwich Conservation Advocates – Rick Margenot, Jane Kochersperger and Marija Mikolajczak. Marija gave an overview of the problem with fracking waste and the need for regulation to prevent problems with it in Connecticut – Fracking creates billions of gallons of waste which is currently sent to eight different states. The treated waste is used as de-icer on roads and as fill. Marija passed out a draft ordinance that they would like the Town of Greenwich to adopt to prevent the use of these products in Greenwich. Discussion ensued on the topic. They would like a letter of support from the Shellfish Commission for the ordinance. Roger said that he would like to speak with the Bureau of Aquaculture to see what they are aware of with this. Jane Kochersperger said that they have taken this to Conservation, the Rules and Legislative Committee, Peter Tesesi and are in the process of getting a petition signed by 200 residents. They said they would need something by May 19, 2017 in order to get it to the Board of Selectman meeting in June.

**UCONN BioBlitz:** Sue said the Bioblitz will be managed by UCONN Scientists and will run from 3pm on 9/15/2017 to 3pm 9/16/2017. This event will provide a point in time baseline of organisms at Greenwich Point. It will look at population diversity and density. Joan is contacting schools informing them of the opportunity to conduct age appropriate activities for students. The amount of involvement will depend on the UCONN team leads. Roger said there will be a Bioblitz tent at the Experience the Sound event in June.

**St. Paul's Demonstration:** Roger said this demonstration will be on May 18, 2017 @ 10 am meeting at the Chimes building. Roger will send out an email. Sue and Bill Cameron thought there should be a way of announcing cancellation of demonstrations, they had about 20 people show up on April 1, 2017 after the event was cancelled due to bed closure. Bill Cameron mentioned that there was a problem with the Shellfish Hotline – there was no message it just said “thank you for calling” and disconnected. Michael Long said that he will look into the problem.

**Summer Shellfish:** Roger reported that Jardar has placed oysters in area C and he will work with Ed Stilwagen on the placement of clams. Bill Cameron recommended that he use the smaller clams.

**Weir project:** Roger reported that Jardar has completed the seeding of the weir and they need to set up monitoring of the area.

**Oyster Seeding Program:** Roger mentioned wanting to get an oyster seeding program started in Byram. Kim said that Aquaculture had placed a cage near the mouth of the Byram when they did the dye study.

**Emsway Boating Safety Day:** Roger said that the Emsway Boating Safety Day will be on May 21, 2017 – the Shellfish Commission will be sponsoring a raw bar with Ed Stilwagen.

**Documentary:** Roger is looking to meet with John Motay and a guy who did an Osprey Documentary about doing a documentary about water quality in Greenwich waters.

**New Commission Member:** Sue said that she has a potential candidate interested in the vacant position. Sue will email him.

**Innis Arden Cottage:** Roger mentioned that he has crates to fill for the clean-up of the second floor of the cottage. Sue said that the shed door needs fixing – it is hard to open and close.

**Harbor Management Commission:** Roger said that there are a couple of dredging projects to be done – Binney Park Pond and Long Meadow Creek.

**Experience the Sound:** Roger reported that the website is being finished and that the Soundwaters boat will be there and will be doing the cruise that they did last year with a limited number of people.

**New Business:** Jay and Kim mentioned that they would like to get a new anchor for the boat. The existing anchor is more of a safety hazard based on its design. Kim will email the request to Michael Long.

The next meeting will be held on June 13, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Josephine Evaristo Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Michael Long