



Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission Meeting

September 11, 2018

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

Guests: Michael Long, Chris Coccaro, Jay Louden, Jardar Nygaard (StellaMar), Steve Arnott (NOAA)

Absent: Rick Kral

The meeting began at 5:35 pm.

1. Minutes – The June 9, 2018 meeting minutes were approved unanimously
2. Treasurer’s Report – Bill Grempp said the accounts look good.
3. New Boat Captain – Roger said that Joe Benoit, former Fire Marshal with Greenwich and many years of boating experience, will be filling out the online application.
4. Clams – Roger mentioned that Ed Stilwagen reported seeing thousands of tiny clams in the water everywhere.
5. UCONN Partnership – Sue Baker reported that she met with UCONN earlier today and talked about fundraising. They are planning on having a fundraiser on November 1, 2018. They also spoke about the microplastics study. Roger said they were also talking of potential studies of microplastics in marine organisms and migratory birds.
6. Oysters in Greenwich Cove – Roger mentioned a potential agreement with Jardar for moving oysters to encourage more growth. Jardar sent Roger a proposal which he will distribute. Jardar said there are large oysters in Chimney Corners which could be relocated to the Mianus and could help distribute the population because of the better water flow.
Roger said that there are five agreements that he is looking to extend with DABA
7. Seed Oyster Project – permit/operation – Jardar said there is not much product and Roger said that they will skip the project this year.
8. NOAA farm project – Roger said they are moving ahead. Jardar said that he thinks Julie Rose from NOAA will be doing something in November.
9. Weir Documentary – Roger said that he and Sue visited the weir and did not see any new oyster set but they did note lots of cultch. Roger said that John Motay plans on showing the movie to the Commission for comment.
10. Recreational Shellfishing – Joan reviewed the Skip the Straws event coming up in October. Roger is looking for volunteers for the Hawkwatch at the Audubon this weekend.
Bill Cameron mentioned that he may need more wardens this season. Roger said he will look at recruiting options.

11. Experience the Sound 2019 – Roger is looking for new ideas. Sue Baker mentioned that she had seen an oyster display at Harborfest that showed how oysters can filter water from cloudy to clear in a matter of hours and thought it could work at ETS.
12. Summer shellfishing – no progress
13. Byram River Pollution project – no updates
14. NOAA – DABA survey – Roger said they will be starting up in the next couple of weeks
15. UCONN fundraising – Roger said that they will be coming back with some ideas.
16. PR Expansion – Roger asked if the links to the social media could be put on the website. Michael Long will look into it.
17. DEEP TMDL notice – Roger will distribute Kristin from DABAs comments on them.
18. New Business – Roger mentioned the change in the recreational Area B map. Michael Long had received the 2015 and 2016 water reports from DABA which made them modify the map and shorten the northern portion. There were a couple of samples which necessitated the change. Discussion ensued about the water quality and how to proceed in getting the classification returned to conditional. Roger said he will try to get more recent testing data to see where they are lately.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2018 at 5:30 pm. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Michael Long