Minutes Shellfish Meeting November 15 2016

Attendees:
Roger Bowgen
Sue Baker
Bill Cameron
Jonathan Stone
Ed Stilwagen - Guest

1. October Minutes Accepted

2. Treasurers report - Treasurer could not attend the meeting

3. UCONN agreement - Roger advised there would be a conference call on Monday 28th with UCONN, the Shellfish Commission and Conservation Commission in order to plan out the next 12 months.

4. Milford Lab - Open House. Roger attended the Open House in Milford and met with Mark Dixon and Thomas Noji (The Chief of the Ecosystems and Aquaculture Division Northeast Fisheries Science Center). The latter was very happy with the Greenwich Shellfish Commission's cooperation with NOAA and looked forward to developing it further.

5. Billion Oyster Project / New York Harbour Foundation - Sue and Roger attended an event in New York Celebrating fourteen years of progress and achievements of the Billion Oyster Project. There will be a meeting in Greenwich in the next months to discuss a CT cooperation.

6. William Patterson University NJ - Student visit to Greenwich Shellfish Beds - Saturday November 12th

Gina Gould brought a group of students from William Patterson University NJ who are part of a developing project to bring back Oysters to Newark Bay. We explained to them what the Shellfish Commission had to do to bring back Oysters to Greenwich Cove and the issues we faced. We further advised with whom we had worked with to answer our questions and to meet the regulations. We then walked the shellfish beds so that they could visualise exactly what wild oysters look like, in all stages off their development.


There are three full cages of GSC oysters ex the Mianus River project for seeding this year. The decision was made that one would be seeded on recreational bed A in the Cove another as a second “load” on the Greenwich Land Trust trial bed in B and the third either in the Weir or as a third load on the recreational beds A or C to be determined.

Two loads of cultch have been placed at the weir project - on the inside and outside. Jadar will check the coverage and, if sufficient, we will discuss from where and when we will seed.
Summer Shellfishing on area C and parts of F. During the winter/spring Jadar will place more oysters on them and Ed will relocate clams to the same same areas to see if we can promote Summer Shellfishing - always subject to the beds being open.

The Location for potential Commercial Oyster seeding for 2016/2017 is to be discussed with DABA.
Areas could include Byram, East and West Field Point, Greenwich Harbour area. An assessment permit has to be issued by DABA to enable GSC to determine suitability.

8. Atlantic Clam Farms has transferred hard shell clams closer to shore in beds A and B in Greenwich Cove for the Recreational Season.

Atlantic has also started relaying clams from the three new CRR beds outside Greenwich Harbour for depuration, for which permits have already been issued by DABA.

9. First Sunday Science was held at the Innis Arden Cottage on November 6th - 40 people attended and Atlantic Clam Farms proffered a raw bar of local shellfish. The "story" of The Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission was told to celebrate it's 30th anniversary.

10. New member of the Commission - still to be determined.

11. Dredging of Mianus is still moving ahead.

Meeting concluded at 1830

Next meeting on 01/10

R Bowgen
11/27