

**GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MINUTES**

November 9, 2016

7:30 P.M.

Town Hall, second floor, Selectmen's Meeting Room

Commissioners: Chair Alison Varian, Vice Chair Stephen Goldschmidt, John Hall, Ed Lombard, Eric Mull, John Sieviec

Absent: Anthony DeLucia

Wardens: Allyn Brown

Commercial: Chris Walston, C.W. Shellfish LLC
Steve Schaefer, Stella Mar Shellfish (formerly Hemlock)

Guests: Guilford Police Officer Fred Hill, potential Warden

At 7:35 pm Chair Alison Varian called to order the regular meeting.

1. Public Forum

There were no comments.

2. Minutes of October 12, 2016 meeting

Upon review,

Motion: John Sieviec moved to approve the October 12, 2016 minutes with amendments, seconded by Stephen Goldschmidt.

Vote: Carried - Stephen Goldschmidt, Ed Lombard, John Hall, John Sieviec, Eric Mull

3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Stephen Goldschmidt

Stephen Goldschmidt reported :

docks, - Chris Walston, C.W. Shellfish, had submitted an application for a commercial Lot, adjacent to the north of the bridge to the Town Marina.
- Steve Schaefer had submitted an application for a commercial Lot in the upper West River.
- Stephen Goldschmidt will review these applications, send additional documents to these fisheries and email this information to GSC members to review for discussion at the December meeting.

Chair Allison Varian advised :

- Fisherman Doug Scheppach is interested in Lot 18 and the Lot above the East River train bridge, above the Dolan Brothers Shellfish Lot, half is in Guilford and half in Madison. He was told to submit an application.
- Bureau of Aquaculture (BoA) reported that additional water sampling is needed for upper East and West Rivers and that there is still time to obtain samples to avoid potential downgrading of these areas.
- BoA is preparing for the standard audit by The Federal Drug and Food Administration will be conducting an audit of the BoA.
- GSC will conduct additional water sampling this month.

Discussion reviewed the process of sampling, regulations and BoA laboratory procedures.

Stephen Goldschmidt will process commercial invoices this month, prorating as needed for new Lot license agreements that began March 1, 2016.

Beginning in 2017, the BoA will be conducting its' assessments of Guilford harbors and bays which is performed every few years.

4. Bills and Correspondence

Treasurer Eric Mull reported :

Bills

Eric Mull :

Pick up seed clams/Intercoastal Fisheries, New Jersey	\$400.97	fuel, rental van, hotel, tarp
Judy Anderson Castellano, Recording Secretary	\$119.00	October
Stephen Goldschmidt - Sampling mileage	\$ 67.85	
Warden Allyn Brown	\$200.00	
Alison Varian - boat fuel	\$ 50.00	
Brown's Boatyard - boat fuel	\$ 50.13	
	<u>\$887.95</u>	

Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved to approve payment of the bills, seconded by John Sieviec.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Correspondence

- Notice: Annual Gathering of CT Shellfish Commission, January 21, 2017.
- Resident Keith Harvey has applied to be appointed to the GSC. *He is a current member of the Harbor Management Commission.
- UCONN, Sea Grant office, Tessa Getchis : survey emailed to Shellfish Commissions and other agencies requesting information on their activities.

5. Wardens' Report

Warden Allyn Brown submitted his written report and advised :

- There are less shellfishers now as winter approaches.
- In addition to Great Harbor, he will patrol other areas this month.

6. Subcommittees

A. Recreation – Stephen Goldschmidt

Stephen Goldschmidt had emailed the monthly Recreational License Revenue report :

- Vendors : Dee's Bait Shop - no sales this month.
 Capt. Morgan's Bait Shop: July through August
 13 nonresident, 21 resident, 3 senior, 15 daily.

Chair Varian will contact Capt. Morgan's regarding total outstanding revenue from September, October and expectations to submit monthly revenue.

B. Water Sampling – Ed Lombard / John Hall / Stephen Goldschmidt

Ed Lombard reported that areas are reopened after rain closures. Due to the BoA laboratory not being available to test samples, one sample will be conducted this week and resubmitted.

C. Boat - John Hall / Alison Varian

Chair Alison Varian reported that the boat prop has more dents and vibrates. Upon discussion, it was decided that John Hall will obtain information to purchase a spare prop.

D. Stocking – Eric Mull/Anthony DeLucia/Alison Varian/John Hall

Eric Mull reported that due to the very hot dry summer, the order from Intercoastal Fisheries was 100,000 seed clams sized 17 - 20 millimeters and 375,000 sized approximately between 12 and 17 millimeters. Due to this smaller size than last year, the cost is one cent less per clam and provided more than the usual 400,000 for \$20,000.

Discussion took place on plans to stock in the spring 2017.

E. Finance - Eric Mull

Treasurer Eric Mull had emailed GSC members the November Operating Report from the Town Finance Dept. The revenue and budget balance are on target, noting an increase in recreational license sales.

F. Special Projects – Eric Mull / John Hall

There are no projects at this time.

G. Signs - Anthony DeLucia

All open/closed signs are posted up to date and in good condition.

H. Website Ed Lombard continues to update the GSC website.**7. Updates****A. Land Acquisition Commission (LAC)**

Stephen Goldschmidt advised that there was no new information to report from LAC.

B. Sea Grant Advisory Board (SGAB)

Stephen Goldschmidt reported that he and Stella Mar owner Steve Schaefer, among others associated with the industry and constituencies involved in the development of the CT Shellfish Initiative (CSI), had attended a SGAB meeting held last month at Avery Point in Groton. Legislators and other public officials were invited in order to inform them about the CSI and garner support for commercial and recreational shellfishing and to "spur CT industry".

C. Harbor Management Commission (HMC)

Chair Varian advised that there was no new information to report.

8. Old Business

A. Sea Grant reimbursement for supplies for Boy Scouts/School groups

Allyn Brown will provide a list of items to submit to UCONN Sea Grant program for reimbursement, including Boy Scouts and school group programs, as well as, baskets, rakes and other needs. Allyn will provide a quote on a lower cost for clam sizing rings for Wardens to distribute to shellfishers.

Steve Schaefer advised on what other towns require for seed oyster beds, which is a question on the Sea Grant survey.

B. Warden Guidelines

As discussed at the October meeting, John Hall and Ed Lombard reviewed further revisions to the current guidelines for warden duties. Clinton Shellfish Commission uses constables who are trained and certified to make arrests. Decided not to pursue wardens with power of arrest

John and Ed will continue to obtain information from current wardens and GSC members to compose draft guidelines for further review.

Motion: John Hall moved to hire Officer Fred Hill as a GSC Warden, seconded by John Sieviec.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Discussion was held on the request, by a former GSC member, to volunteer as a Warden.

C. License Language

Discussion reviewed final language updates to the 2017 recreational license forms.

Chair Varian advised that a resident would like to donate a buoy in exchange for a lifetime license. Chris Walston volunteered to obtain information on less expensive buoys for further GSC discussion.

9. New Business

A. Possible Non-resident Senior Recreational License

Discussion was held on a request to create an annual nonresident senior recreational license.

Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved to create an annual nonresident senior recreational license to be billed at \$65, seconded by John Sieviec.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Chair Varian will send an order to K & G Printing to print the 2017 licenses.

10. Adjournment

Motion: At 8:39 pm, Eric Mull moved to adjourn, seconded by Ed Lombard.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary