

**GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MINUTES**

February 10, 2016

7:30 P.M.

Town Hall, second floor, Selectmen's Meeting Room

Commissioners: Chair TR Brysh, Vice Chair Stephen Goldschmidt, Ed Meaney, Eric Mull, Alison Varian, John Hall, Anthony DeLucia, Ed Lombard

Absent: None

Wardens: Wayne Vetre, Allyn Brown

Commercial: Bud Harris, LMH Charters, 70 Cardinal Drive, Guilford
Peter Consiglio, Poppa-C, LLC, East Haven, CT
Steven Schafer, Hemlock Oyster Company, 1 Harbor Pt., Stamford, CT
Jay Fairty/Patty King, Dolan Brothers Shellfish, 231 Harbor St., Branford, CT

Guests: None

At 7:34 pm Chair TR Brysh called to order the regular meeting.

1. Public Forum

Discussion reviewed the commercial Lots available for license agreements. At the end of review, the commercial fishermen did not remain for the rest of the meeting.

2. Approval of February 10, 2016 Minutes

It was decided to defer approval of the January minutes to the next meeting.

3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Stephen Goldschmidt

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

A. Executive Session: Discuss Commercial Lot License Real Estate

Motion: At 7:40 pm, Tony DeLucia moved to adjourn to Executive Session, inviting GSC commissioners and Warden Wayne Vetre to attend, to discuss commercial lot license real estate, seconded by Alison Varian.

Vote: Carried - Mull, Varian, Meaney, Hall, DeLucia, Goldschmidt, Lombard

Motion: At 7:50 pm, Tony DeLucia moved to close the Executive Session and reopen the regular meeting, seconded by Alison Varian.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Motion: Eric Mull moved to authorize Stephen Goldschmidt to send letters notifying those commercial fisheries whose proposals were chosen to license shellfish grounds, seconded by Alison Varian.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

4. Bills and Correspondence

Finance Chair Eric Mull submitted bills for review :

Bills

Warden Wayne Vetre	\$ 80.00
Warden Allyn Brown	\$ 120.00
Warden Bob Kazden	\$ 160.00
Judy Anderson Castellano-Recording Secretary	\$ 153.00
TR Brysh - sampling mileage	\$ 48.30
TR Brysh - Annual Gathering of CT Shellfish Com.- member registrations	\$ 140.00
Alison Varian - sampling mileage	\$ 43.20
Tony DeLucia - sign locks	\$ 84.00
Total :	\$ 828.50

Motion: Tony DeLucia moved to pay the bills, seconded by Alison Varian.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Correspondence

- Docko Inc. dock application for 5 Rock Lane.
- Chair Brysh advised that GSC should stay alert to impact on shellfish from the Town plan which is accepting RFPs from developers for 111 condominiums and a waste treatment facility on Lower Whitfield Street. This location is next to needed marshlands, the Guilford Yacht Club, eagle nests and habitats for other endangered wildlife.
- UCONN Sea Grant office : Tessa Getchis sent emails regarding the summary of the Annual Gathering of CT Shellfish Commissions and requests for economic assessment and other data.

5. Wardens' Report

Warden Wayne Vetre reported that many shellfishers have been out this winter during warmer days. The flag markers for C.W. Shellfish, Chris Walston, are missing. Wayne had to tell shellfishers to leave after finding them harvesting on these commercial beds. Chris had been contacted.

Chair Brysh requested that since he has been scheduling warden patrols and monitoring the \$11,000 budget, another commissioner needs to assume these responsibilities. Invoices must be obtained from wardens each month.

6. Subcommittees

A. Recreational Licenses : Discuss 2016 Licenses

Ed Meaney reported on license sales :

- records will be kept in sequence of sales.
- Town Clerk's Office:
 - * January : 12 nonresident, 4 resident, 6 senior. Total: \$1,090
 - * February : 10 nonresident, 20 resident, 13 senior. Total: \$1,470
- Capt. Morgan Bait Shop : August 2015 - \$2,905

Discussion focused on concerns regarding the continual lag in sales reports and funds from Capt. Morgan's. It was decided :

- Ed Meaney will contact the owner of Capt. Morgan's to clarify the situation and request that a report be provided at least a day before the GSC monthly meeting.
- Sales information is vital to GSC decisions on warden patrols and budget planning.
- Stephen Goldschmidt will contact data entry clerk Laurie Kelly to modify the current record keeping format.

B. Water Sampling

Alison Varian reported that the Bureau of Aquaculture (BoA) will be meeting with GSC members on Wednesday, February 17 at 9:00 a.m. to review the procedures for water and meat sampling, as well as, the GSC difficulties to obtain Adverse Pollution Control samples.

Chair Brysh had sent a letter to BoA requesting to clarify and resolve the process for both BoA and GSC. Test results are used by BoA to classify recreational shellfish areas and provide public health safety by opening or closing locations. The Federal Drug & Health Administration requires areas to be further evaluated every ten years. GSC is required to obtain up to date APC samples.

Discussion reviewed the unsafe weather conditions and some remote locations that volunteers must endure to obtain these samples and further limitations due to tides, rainfall scale, and the hours/day that BoA laboratory is open. It would be best if BoA only sent email notifications and test results to one GSC member in addition to the Town Health Director Dennis Johnson.

C. Boat

Alison Varian reported that GSC has paid the Town Marina slip fee.

D. Stocking

Chair Brysh recommended that Little Harbor should be stocked this year since the location is good for growing clams.

E. Finance

Eric Mull submitted the January Finance Statement from the Town Finance Dept. noting :

- GSC's \$10,000 donation toward the Fire Dept. purchase of a new fireboat has been transferred from the GSC account.
- Eric will contact the Finance Dept. regarding clarification of how funds are categorized and that they should reflect GSC expenditures, such as, the fireboat.
- Warden Vetre will report on a Fire Dept. boat trailer at the next GSC meeting.

F. Special Projects

Chair Brysh reported that the person who made an offer to purchase the GSC bull rake declined to pay GSC asking price of \$200.

G. Signs

Tony DeLucia reported that the Open and Closed recreational signs will be changed this week.

H. Website

Chair Brysh reported that he had sent updates to the GSC webpage to Town Webmaster, Traci Brinkman.

8. Updates**A. Land Acquisition Commission (LAC)**

Stephen Goldschmidt reported that there was no new information from the LAC.

B. Sea Grant Advisory Board (SGAB)

Stephen Goldschmidt reported that SGAB was working on obtaining a grant for the CT Shellfish Initiative.

C. Harbor Management Commission (HMC)

HMC Chair Alison Varian reported that in March HMC will send requests for mooring registrations to those who use moorings. Fees will remain at \$25 despite an increased fee from online mooring registrations, the web based management system.

9. Old Business**A. Annual Gathering of CT Shellfish Commissions**

Discussion reviewed the January 30, 2016, Annual Gathering of the CT Shellfish Commissions, at the New Haven Sound School, attended by most of the GSC commissioners. TR had facilitated a "round table" discussion regarding "Warden Patrols and Procedures". GSC has the most efficient procedures and collects the most revenue to conduct its work out of all the CT Shellfish Commissions. It was suggested that a "Question and Answer" session be added to next year's Gathering agenda.

10. New Business**A. FY 2016-2017**

Chair Brysh and Finance Chair Eric Mull will compose the GSC Annual Budget Report to be submitted to the Board of Selectmen in April.

Discussion reviewed plans for stocking, which will be on the March agenda.

B. Election of Chairperson

Outgoing Chair Brysh advised that, as his tenure has expired, he has enjoyed his eight years of service to the Town as a GSC member and as a chairperson. He offered to continue to volunteer with sampling as he is able.

Motion: John Hall moved to nominate Alison Varian to fill the chairperson position, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Motion: John Hall moved to elect Alison Varian as new chairperson, replacing TR Brysh, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

The Board of Selectmen has appointed alternates Ed Lombard and John Hall as regular members.

TR Brysh explained the duties and process to coordinate the Warden patrol schedule and budget. Warden Vetre requested that two wardens be assigned to Great Harbor and two at Shell Beach. These areas have a high volume of shellfishers.

*Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved :
Be it resolved, that TR Brysh be commended for his eight years of excellent leadership and dedicated work in service to the Town of Guilford. Seconded by John Hall.*

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Motion: John Hall moved that in appreciation for TR Brysh's achievement, he be presented with a Lifetime Recreational Shellfish License, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

11. Adjournment

Motion : At 9:05 pm, Stephen Goldschmidt moved to adjourn, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

Vote : Carried – Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary