

**GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MINUTES**

July 13, 2016

7:30 P.M.

Town Hall, second floor, Selectmen's Meeting Room

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

Absent: None

Wardens: Allyn Brown

Commercial: Steve Schafer, Stella Mar Shellfish (aka Hemlock Shellfish)
Bud Harris, LMH Charters

Guests: Michael Lorre, resident
Jim Wickam, permitting agent for John Rothberg of Oceanco LLC, 506 Whitfield Street

At 7:45 pm Chair Alison Varian called to order the regular meeting.

1. Public Forum

Resident and shellfisher Michael Lorre advised that he has shellfished at Shell Beach for many years. He is concerned that he observes several nonresidents on a regular basis with over limit harvests.

It was reported that shellfishers have been seen harvesting at night with full buckets in other areas including sluices. It is unknown whether they are licensed. Discussion was held on issues of concern for all recreational areas.

a. Public Notice on Lot 43, K.J. Lee Meridian Support Company

Stephen Goldschmidt described the legal notice for Lot 43 leased by Meridian Support Company (K.J. Lee) and worked by Bud Harris of LMH Charters. Bud will obtain DEEP permits.

b. John B. Lust presentation on Oceanco LLC project plans for 508 Whitfield Street

Jim Wickam, a permitting agent for Oceanco LLC, John Rothberg, presented information and photos of an application to the Town to allow a dock with concrete and riprap stone for public access. Proposal is for kayaking and canoeing at 508 Whitfield Street. The proposed plans have been presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission. This is at the tide gate, near the former Old Stone House restaurant, at Dock Lane (Beach Avenue).

During review, Chair Varian, commissioners, and commercial fishermen present advised that the tide gate is a dangerous location for public access. Kayaks or canoes are limited to 100 yards of travel. GSC is responsible to protect the shellfish beds located on the banks of the river in this area. Two acres of beds are privately owned.

GSC requested that Oceanco LLC provide the following information:

- Is the proposed dock construction on dry land or shellfish beds ?
- What is the full intended use of this proposal beyond this presentation ?
- What would be the impact of and magnitude of foot traffic, kayakers/canoes ?
- What precautions will be taken to stop people from the dangers of the tide gate and tide ebbs ?
- What are the plans for accommodating a parking area ?
- How many people are expected to use this access year round ?

- What "other species", approved by DEEP, will be planted to replace removal of phragmites ?
- Determine whether or not the access road and parking in this area are public or private ?
- Inland Wetlands Commission must review this proposal as well.

Mr. Wickham advised that he will research and provide this information to the GSC.

2. Minutes of June 8, 2016 meeting

Upon review,

Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved to approve the June 8, 2016, meeting minutes, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

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

3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Stephen Goldschmidt

Discussion reviewed Lot 43 commercial license agreement.

Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved to approve a five year commercial license agreement for Lot 43, as described in the legal notice, however, GSC reserves the right to review activity for the first year of the license agreement with ability to revoke the license with K.J. Lee if necessary, seconded by Eric Mull.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

There was no further information on commercial licenses.

Steve Schafer reported that his company, Stella Mar, aka Hemlock Shellfish, has DEEP permission to remove bushel bags of oysters from there licensed beds on the West River using a truck and palettes. He advised on his operations with shell, sub strait and experimenting. These are very productive grounds and have been helpful to his business plans.

GSC will post photos of Stella Mar operations on the GSC webpage. Discussion reviewed possibilities of Stella Mar providing GSC with assistance and shellfish for stocking.

4. Bills and Correspondence

Treasurer Eric Mull reported :

Bills

Warden Allyn Brown	\$ 480.00
Ed Lombard - mileage: sampling	\$ 181.44
Tony DeLucia : sampling mileage trips	\$ 122.00
Recording Secretary: Judy Anderson Castellano	\$ 119.00
Schweizer Waste Removal (former Waste Tech)	\$ 102.00
Shorepublishing : Legal Notice - Public Hearing Lot 43	<u>\$ 78.00</u>
Total:	\$ 960.44

It was reported that citizens are illegally disposing of their trash in GSC waste containers.

Motion: Stephen Goldschmidt moved to approve paying the bills, seconded by Ed Lombard.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Revenue June / July Recreational sales to date : \$5,315

Correspondence

- DEEP June 21, 2016 approval notice : project at Great Harbor and Shell Beach.
- Letter : Hamden Hall Day School student Chris Izzo, residence 270 Neck Road, Guilford to GSC c/o John Hall regarding his concerns of ongoing illegal shellfishing in Guilford waters and public health. * John will send a response letter expressing appreciation to Chris and will provide information on GSC actions for this ongoing issue.
- "Wrack Lines" shellfishing magazine was received.

5. Wardens' Report

Warden Allyn Brown reported :

- Great Harbor is very busy and he will be patrolling Chaffinch Island. There is a good relationship between he and the shellfishers. He and Ed Lombard will take the GSC boat to the Leete's Island side of Great Harbor to investigate activity.
- Today, a reporter for WTNH TV, channel 8, "CT Style" show had interviewed Allyn on shellfishing in Guilford.

GSC remains in need of more volunteers.

6. Subcommittees

A. Recreation – Stephen Goldschmidt

Licenses sold June /July: 269 total
 Revenue : \$4,920

Vendor :	Nonresident	Resident	Senior	Daily
- Town Clerk	35	78	46	6
- Capt. Morgan	None	-	-	-
- Dee's Bait	None	-	-	-

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

Ed Lombard reported that the periodic APC sampling and the regular monthly sampling for June and July is up to date. His regular meeting with the Bureau of Aquaculture will be next Thursday.

C. Boat - John Hall / Alison Varian

John Hall reported :

- Boat is in good condition.
- Buoys 1 and 5 are missing.

Discussion included all buoy locations. All have been refurbished and some lettering is peeling off. John Hall will contact Beebe Boatyard regarding the number of buoys they installed.

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

It was reported that C.W. Shellfish, Chris Walston, may not be able to provide GSC with clams to stock due to some die off and storm damages to his grounds. Eric Mull will contact Intercoastal Fisheries in New Jersey on whether a clam order is possible at this time.

E. Finance - Eric Mull

Treasurer Eric Mull submitted the June Operating Statement received from the Finance Dept. noting it has been a good year for recreational license sales. GSC had donated \$10,000 to the Fire Department toward the purchase of a new fire boat. Discussion compared figures from year to year. Members expressed appreciation to Treasurer Mull for his good work on the finances.

F. Special Projects – Eric Mull / John Hall There are no projects at this time.

G. Signs - Anthony DeLucia

Tony DeLucia reported that all open/closed signs are in good condition and posted up to date. He will purchase the ten new locks for signs from "U.S. Locks " this month at \$5.67 per lock.

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 will forward an email notice to GSC commissioners received from Tessa Getchis, UCONN, Sea Grant office, which gave links to the CT Shellfish Initiative Report.

Chair Alison Varian advised that SGAB will provide funds for GSC supplies through a Shellfish Initiative grant.

C. Harbor Management Commission (HMC)

Chair Varian reported that about 160 people have registered moorings. There are approximately 280 total moorings in Guilford waters which includes the Sachem's Head Association.

8. Old Business**A. Sea Grant reimbursement for supplies for Boy Scouts/School groups**

Chair Varian reported that Sea Grant funds will provide for GSC supplies with scouts and school groups.

9. New Business

A. License Language

Discussion was tabled to the August meeting to review language for future commercial license agreements.

B. Project Plans for Oceanco LLC at 506 Whitfield Street

Reviewed under "Public Forum, b. John B. Lust...."

10. Adjournment

Motion: At 9:02 pm, Stephen Goldschmidt moved to adjourn, seconded by Eric Hall.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary