

**GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**December 13, 2017**

**7:30 P.M.**

**Town Hall, second floor, Selectmen's Meeting Room**

Commissioners: Chair Stephen Goldschmidt, John Hall, Ed Lombard, John Sieviac, Keith Harvey, Peter Charland

Absent: Tony DeLucia

Wardens: Fred Hill, Allyn Brown

Commercial: Kim Granbery, fisherman

Guests: Bob Berger, GSC volunteer and potential commissioner  
Jeff Westermeyer, Environmental Scientist, Coastal Consulting and Development, Branford, CT : Representing OceanCo / Rothberg

At 7:34 pm Chair Stephen Goldschmidt called to order the regular meeting.

**1. Public Forum**

*Motion: John Sieviac moved to add to the agenda a presentation by Jeff Westermeyer for OceanCo, seconded by Keith Harvey.*

*Vote: Carried - John Hall, Ed Lombard, John Sieviac, Keith Harvey, Peter Harland*

Jeff Westermeyer, Coastal Consulting and Development, addressed their client OceanCo's (485 Whitefield Street) application to the DEEP to add fill on land at a stonewall, near the Town Marina bulkhead and sluice area on Whitfield Street. Grading of new soil would be on the lowest location and was not expected to flood other properties. Crushed stone would be used and not expected to cause erosion into nearby wetlands on tidal marsh.

Commissioners reviewed a Whitfield Street map and design plans for the south east corner of the property along with photos, plantings, rise of the land, using non-contaminated fill with gravel along the wall. OceanCo has already placed fill without DEEP permits.

GSC concerns include :

- Long and short term impact with no further risk to marshlands and commercial shellfish grounds.
- That only natural fertilizer be used, no pesticides, and that OceanCo obtain all permits prior to construction.
- Mr. Westermeyer was requested to contact the commercial fisheries that have shellfish Lots on or near this proposed location.

*Motion: Ed Lombard moved to accept the (proposed design) plans with compliance to use natural fertilizer for plantings, notifying commercial fisheries of the project, obtain permits prior to work, and no risk to marshlands and shellfish, seconded by Keith Harvey.*

*Vote: Carried : Unanimously*

## **2. Minutes of November 8, 2017 meeting**

Upon review,

*Motion: Ed Lombard moved to approve the November 8, 2017 minutes, seconded by Peter Charland.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

## **3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Stephen Goldschmidt**

Chair Goldschmidt reported :

- He had sent commercial invoices on December 5.
- Payment was received from Kim Granbery (\$172) and Dolan Brothers Shellfish(\$5,621.50)
- C.W. Walston Shellfish, Stella Mar Shellfish, Rick Greenleaf and Bud Harris have outstanding invoices due by the end of December.
- An email was received from Kim Granbery advising that DEEP had approved his permits for Lots 53 and 54. He included photos.  
Kim reported that Lot 53 oysters will be broadcast to Lot 54 where the water is deeper and not frozen.
- His oyster meat samples passed the DEEP testing.
- The operation is very successful at this time.

GSC is also enthusiastic on the success of this venture.

## **4. Bills and Correspondence**

Treasurer Peter Charland reported :

### Bills

Warden Fred Hill - November invoice	\$ 120.00
Judy Anderson Castellano, Recording Secretary	\$ 93.50
Warden Allyn Brown - November Invoice	\$ 160.00
John Hall - Boat supplies : Home Depot 74.94	
Country Paint and Hardware 12.34	\$ 87.28
Brown's Boatyard - fuel	\$ 53.96
Stephen Goldschmidt - Sea Grant CT Shellfish Initiative meeting	\$ 57.67
C.W. Shellfish : Stocking clams	\$ 2,640.00
K & G Printing: 2018 Recreational Licenses	\$ 1,040.00
Allyn Brown - GSC T-shirts	\$ 280.25
Total :	\$ 4,532.66

*Motion: Keith Harvey moved to approve payment of the bills, seconded by John Sieviec.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

### Correspondence

- Town of Guilford, "Earthfest", April 21, 2018 : Invitation to display GSC information.
- UCONN Sea Grant email invitation to 14 th Annual CT Shellfish Commission Gathering, January 13, 2018 at The Sound School, New Haven.
- Letter from Jeff Westermeyer regarding the OceanCo application to DEEP.

Chair Goldschmidt advised that GSC will pay for the CT Shellfish Com. Gathering registration fee and requested that commissioners register soon.

## **5. Wardens' Report**

Warden Allyn Brown reported that this month has had low recreational activity. Most winter shellfishers will harvest from Great Harbor.

Warden Fred Hill reported some areas had been closed earlier in the month. He will patrol Grass Island for violators.

## **6. Subcommittees**

### **A. Recreation – Stephen Goldschmidt / Keith Harvey**

Treasurer Peter Charland reported :

Sales Revenue : \$620 Lobster Pound

- 5 resident, 4 nonresident, 1 nonresident senior, 2 resident senior, 6 daily

Chair Goldschmidt was told by the Capt. Morgan Bait Shop they would submit receipts in January.

Chair Goldschmidt has distributed the 2018 recreational licenses to vendors.

Discussion was held on whether or not to include vendors from other towns, the positive or negative impacts to shellfish areas, harvest, sales, and GSC stocking plan.

It was decided that adding a couple new vendors at this time would not generate enough increase sales to warrant the hours. This issue may be reviewed in the future.

Discussion reviewed a method of monitoring seed clams including growth count and living to maturity. The Sound School and UCONN Sea Grant Office have not shown interest in supporting GSC with this effort.

Further discussion will be held at future meetings on collecting recreational license data.

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

Ed Lombard reported :

- November sampling is done and December will be done soon.
- Fisherman Chris Walston volunteered GSC his boat. Ed will schedule the Fire Boat if Chris is unavailable.

Discussion reviewed a test results chart and difficult to reach areas. Chair Goldschmidt praised Ed for his "great job" organizing the sampling efforts, noting that it is the Commission's most important responsibility, time and commitment to assure safe quality waters for healthy shellfish and public consumption. Fisherman Kim Granbery volunteered to assist GSC. Ed advised that last year the Bureau of Aquaculture (BoA) conducted most of the winter sampling. He will call them to request if they are available.

**C. Boat - John Hall / Ed Lombard**

John Hall reported that he had added new bunks and repaired the trailer brackets. Ed Lombard had taken the boat by trailer to East River Marine to winterize. The pilot seat will be installed in the spring. Supplies will be stored for the winter. Chair Goldschmidt expressed appreciation to John and Ed for their work on this project.

**D. Stocking – Anthony DeLucia / John Hall / John Sievic**

Ed Lombard reported that about 90 bags of clams from C.W. Walston were stocked this month.

**E. Finance - Peter Charland / Ed Lombard**

Treasurer Peter Charland had not received the November Operating Report from the Town Finance Dept. and will email it to GSC when received.

Revenue : Dolan Brothers Shellfish	\$ 5,621.50
Kim Granbery	\$ 178.02
Lobster Pound (licenses)	<u>\$ 620.00</u>
Total :	\$ 6,419.52

John Hall reported that the 13 year old GSC boat sounds like it may need new bushings and a fuel line. Plans should be made to replace the 2004 outboard motor (\$10,000 - \$15,000) at some point. John will ask East River Marine to inspect the boat to determine the need for replacement parts.

**F. Special Projects – John Hall / Peter Charland / Warden Brown**

Discussion on whether GSC will participate in Guilford's "Earthfest" will take place at a future meeting.

**G. Signs - Anthony DeLucia / Warden Brown**

There was no new information to report.

**H. Website - Ed Lombard / Keith Harvey**

Ed Lombard reported there was no new information to add to the GSC website.

**7. Updates**

**A. Land Acquisition Commission (LAC) - Stephen Goldschmidt**

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

**B. Sea Grant Advisory Board (SGAB) - Stephen Goldschmidt**

Stephen Goldschmidt reported that the Aquaculture Initiative is being conducted along all coastlines in the U.S. Connecticut has initiated thirty Public Awareness Outreach programs this past year including Clam Dig events and marine displays in a variety of settings. Plans are to organize more programs for every municipality. A final report from the UCONN SGAB Initiative will include goals and impediments, progress, challenges, and ways to produce "powerful" school programs and community presentations on the Initiative.

An economic analysis is also being conducted for the \$110,000 license sales in Connecticut. The Initiative is looking for additional input for the report in order to provide the "full story" of CT shellfish history.

Discussion revealed that Massachusetts has initiated a cooperation of commercial shellfisheries to brand sales of oysters and clams as a "boutique" commodity. Kim Granbery advised that the same is being done locally, managing farm and harvest. This is similar to the growing microbrewery farm industry. Some commercial fisheries mark their shellfish. Ground locations produce different tasting shellfish.

Chair Goldschmidt will send Sea Grant Advisory Board the GSC Stocking/Planting Plan. He noted that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bur. of Aquaculture is being updated.

**C. Harbor Management Commission (HMC) - Keith Harvey / John Sievec**

Keith Harvey reported that the HMC did not meet in November.

**D. Docks, moorings and other potentially impacting projects - John Sievec/  
Keith Harvey**

Discussion held under "Old Business".

## 8. Old Business

### A. Review of Warden Guidelines

Discussion was tabled to the January meeting.

### B. Review of Docks and other potentially Impacting Projects

#### 1. Shell Beach Marsh Restoration

John Sieviec reported there is no new information on the Shell Beach Marsh Restoration project. DEEP has control over when the flood gate is opened or closed and the Town is waiting for funds from the State of CT. Tuttle's Point Road permit has been approved.

#### 2. Seaside Ave. dock

John Sieviec reported that the construction the Seaside Avenue Dock project is underway. He had observed a portion of the work as the crew bore to 30 feet to replace the Sluice culvert. There was 26.5 feet of silt.

#### 3. Rt 146 road reconstruction

John Sieviec reported that there was no new information on the Rt. 146 Project. Design plans have not been submitted to the Town.

#### 4. West River/Yacht Club dredging and marsh restoration

John Sieviec reported that he has not heard from Jack Evans of the Guilford Yacht Club regarding where the Guilford Yacht Club will be disposing of dredging spoils during their marsh restoration along the West River. The Club is researching the use of hydraulic equipment for dredging its basin and channel.

John Sieviec advised that the Town Marina will be dredged in 2019.

### C. Annual Report

Chair Goldschmidt reported that he had submitted the 2016-2017 Annual Report to the Town Clerk's Office.

## 9. New Business

### A. Annual Alison Varian Memorial Scholarship

Chair Goldschmidt reported that he had sent an email to GSC with document information from The Sound School to initiate the Annual Alison Varian Memorial Scholarship Fund at The Guilford Foundation.

Discussion was held on details of the Scholarship Fund and distribution. Agreement documents will be signed between the Donors, Chair Stephen Goldschmidt and Selectman Gary MacElhiney, and The Guilford Foundation. The goal is to raise \$10,000 within five years, of which about \$5,000 has already been earmarked. Steve Schafer of Stella Mar Shellfish has offered to supply oysters for a GSC fundraiser.

Donations can be collected at fundraisers including GSC events such as the Guilford Fair display, at other community events and public education presentations.

The scholarship is intended to be sustained by future donations including those from GSC once the \$10,000 is raised. There are agencies and individuals who are willing to donate. The Donors and GSC would like to give scholarships beginning in 2018 and during the next five years while also raising the remaining \$5,000 which will be invested by The Guilford Foundation. The Guilford Foundation can be contacted regarding possible interest in fundraising with GSC.

*Motion: Keith Harvey moved that the GSC supply funds for creation of the Annual Alison Varian Memorial Scholarship Fund at The Guilford Foundation (The Guilford Foundation will have an agreement with The Sound School), seconded by Peter Charland.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

Further discussion will be held at the January meeting.

#### **B. 2018 Recreational Licenses**

Licenses were reviewed earlier in the meeting.

### **10. Adjournment**

*Motion: At 9:05 pm, Keith Harvey moved to adjourn, seconded by John Sieviec.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

Respectfully submitted,

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*Judith Anderson Castellano*  
Recording Secretary