

GUILFORD SHELLFISH COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 8, 2019

7:30 P.M.

Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room, Second Floor

Commissioners: Chair Ed Lombard, Vice Chair Bob Burger, John Sievec, Keith Harvey, Peter Charland, John Hall, Anthony DeLucia, Don Kowalsky (Alt)
Absent: None
Wardens: Allyn Brown, Greg Marsh
Commercial: None
Guests: Fishermen Peter Weiss, Chris Scheppach
Jonathan McGee, Kelp farmer

At 7:30 pm Chair Ed Lombard called to order the regular meeting.

1. Public Forum

Kelp sea farmer Jonathan McGee of Ivoryton, CT provided information on his proposal to establish a kelp farm in the shoreline on five acres in the Sachem Head area. He submitted a diagram for this winter crop to be set up in October 2019. He advised that he is working with the Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), UCONN Sea Grant Office, Bur. of Aquaculture (BoA) and Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) on permits and surveys. He would mark the perimeter and initially install one long seed string line to grow and cultivate. Harvest is from March through May. DEEP had told him that there were no shellfish beds in the proposed area. If the first year harvest is successful, his three year business plan is to sell the produce to Atlantic Sea Farms. He advised that there is an environmental "Farmer-in-Training" program called "Green Wave".

Discussion reviewed the need for sea farmers to coexist with established commercial fisheries. Other kelp farmers have come before the GSC as well. BoA charts/maps do not appear to be up to date with GSC information. Mr. McGee advised that his proposal is 300 feet wide by 500 feet long with moorings and buoys on the long side. He will send Chair Lombard information as his permit process continues and proposed coordinates.

Peter Weiss and Chris Scheppach advised that they are interested in what commercial Lots are available for lease.

2. Minutes of April 10, 2019 meeting

Motion: Keith Harvey moved to approve the April 10, 2019 minutes as presented, seconded by Tony DeLucia.

Vote: Carried - Keith Harvey, Peter Charland, John Hall, Bob Burger, John Sievec, Tony DeLucia

3. Commercial Activity and Licenses - Peter Charland

Chair Ed Lombard will contact the BoA and UCONN Sea Grant Office regarding the GSC jurisdiction for kelp sea farming.

4. Bills and Correspondence

Bills

Treasurer Peter Charland reported :

Warden Allyn Brown	\$ 160.00
Recording Secretary Judy Anderson Castellano - April Invoice	\$ 77.63
Data Entry Clerk Nancy Matyasovsky	\$ 103.50
East River Marine Supply - Boat	\$ 269.23
Don Kowalsky - sampling mileage	\$ 128.00
Dolan Brothers Shellfish - stock	<u>\$2,200.00</u>

Total : \$2,939.16

Motion: Keith Harvey moved to approve payment of the bills, seconded by Bob Burger.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Correspondence

Letter of appreciation received from The Guilford Foundation for the GSC \$1,000 donation to the annual Alison Varian Memorial Scholarship Fund.

*A GSC member presents this scholarship awarded to a marine biology student.

Bob Burger, Keith Harvey and Peter Charland volunteer with the annual fundraiser to take place in September. Volunteers are always welcome. Auction and raffle donations are needed.

5. Wardens' Report

Warden Allyn Brown reported that rain and wind have decreased recreational shellfishing this month.

6. Subcommittees

A. Recreation – Peter Charland / Keith Harvey

Recreational license sales are doing well at the Town Clerk's Office and Captain Morgan Bait Shop. New daily licenses have been printed which corrected the missing number issue.

(See license sales report under *Finance Report*)

B. Water Sampling – Ed Lombard / John Hall / Warden Fred Hill / Bob Burger

Bob Burger reported that water sampling is caught up through April. Currently all areas, except Shell Beach, are closed due to rainfall totals. Adverse Pollution Conditions (APC) sampling is up to date.

Chair Lombard reported :

- Indian Cove only qualifies for the 1 inch rain gauge limit to close the area, not the 1-1/2 inch amount.
- He had spoken with Alissa Dracan of the BoA advising that the BoA is working on the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) report. She will let GSC know if there are changes that impact GSC. Meat sampling will be done.

C. Boat - John Hall / Ed Lombard (New gear, expired flairs, life jackets, update GPS)

(See report under, 9. New Business, A. Other)

D. Stocking – Anthony DeLucia / John Hall / John Sieviec

Chair Ed Lombard reported :

GSC stocked Dolan Brothers Shellfish oysters on May 7 at Great Harbor. Good weather conditions and GSC members made it enjoyable. Resident Bob Jacobs volunteered as well.

Bob Burger reported that stock supplier Aqua Research Corporation of Massachusetts advised that some of their seed clams have shellfish leukemia. This is not dangerous to humans yet kills clams and decreases their inventory. The company will not sell product beyond their local area. Bob had contacted Roger Williams, Ph.D in marine life, who suggested a Barnstable supplier for the fall 2019 seed clam stocking. Bob will provide further information at the next GSC meeting.

E. Finance - Peter Charland / Ed Lombard

Treasurer Peter Charland reported on the April Operating Statement :

- YTD Revenue : \$29,688 Fiscal year ends June 30.
- Town of Madison shared the revenue from Dolan Brothers Shellfish commercial fees. Grounds are in both towns. This revenue has not been noted on the Town Finance Dept. GSC April Operating Statement. Peter Charland will contact that office. Commercial revenue is approximately \$1,000 lower than last year at this time. Chair Lombard and Treasurer Charland will review the outstanding commercial invoices.
- The budget requires about \$8,500 revenue from recreational licenses. Changes in annual weather conditions may be impacting shellfishing sales.

Recreational License Revenue :		\$3,187
GSC :	1 annual resident	\$ 25
Cash Donation:		\$ 20
Town Clerk :	7 annual non-resident	
	5 annual non-resident senior	
	19 annual resident	
	15 annual resident senior	
		\$1,550
Capt. Morgan:	12 annual non-resident	
	9 annual non-resident senior	
	10 annual resident	
		\$1,592

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

John Sieviec reported that Town Engineer Janice Plaziak has been on site at the Shell Beach culvert renovation project. This area is being studied for potential septic pollution. UCONN Sea Grant Office has a \$30,000 grant available toward these projects.

G. Signs - Anthony DeLucia / Warden Brown

Tony DeLucia reported that GSC members will assist with installation of a new open/closure sign in the southwest corner of Chaffinch Island recreational shellfishing area. Two buoys will also be placed.

H. Website - Ed Lombard / Keith Harvey

Chair Ed Lombard reported he had met with Town Health Director Dennis Johnson and will contact the Town internet technician to install up to date weather forecasts especially for rainfall. Peter Charland will research improved technology for GSC hotline and provide information to Health Dir. Johnson.

Shellfishers are again reminded to call the GSC Hotline for daily recreational open or closed areas.

7. Updates

A. Land Acquisition Commission (LAC) - John Sieviec

There was no new information from LAC.

B. Sea Grant Advisory Board (SGAB) - John Sieviec / Bob Burger

There was no new information from SGAB.

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

Keith Harvey reported that the HMC will be using waste dredge bags to dry out the soil. UCONN has a master's degree program using this method at the Route 146 bridge / wetlands project, being planned by DOT/DEEP/ACOE/Town of Guilford.

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

Discussion held earlier in the meeting.

8. Old Business

A. Safety follow up - Allyn Brown / John Sieviec / Don Kowalsky

Discussion was Tabled to the next meeting.

B. Review of Docks and other potentially Impacting Projects

Discussion held earlier in the meeting.

C. Review Shellfish Management Plan

John Sieviec reported that he had worked with BoA, Alissa Darcan, and Town Health Dir. Johnson on language in the Shellfish Management Plan regarding septic pollution issues.

9. New Business

A. Other

10. Adjournment

Motion: At 8:33 pm, John Hall moved to adjourn, seconded by Tony DeLucia

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary