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Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 1, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Lawson called the regular meeting of the Waterford Shellfish Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum and welcomed everyone back to in person meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Lawson, Drennen, Francolino, Malley, and Havens. Absent were Commissioners Calkins and LeBelle.

4. Approval of the March 2, 2021 Zoom Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Havens to approve the March 2, 2021 Zoom Meeting Minutes as submitted and reviewed. Discussion; none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Correspondence

Chairman Lawson stated that he has been forwarding all correspondence he receives in between meetings to the Commission members for review. He reviewed an email he received on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 from Alissa Dragan, Environmental Analyst III at the Bureau of Aquaculture and Laboratory regarding the final stage of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Jordan Cove rain trigger. He stated the rain trigger increased to an inch and one half will mean less closures of the recreational shell fishing areas, less sampling and less travel for the Wardens. Once the document is signed by all parties the new rain trigger will be in effect.

6. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Francolino reviewed the Treasurer's Report with the Commission members from a report he received from the Finance Department through April 30, 2021. He discussed revenues and expenses incurred throughout the month including the expenditure for the Waterford Shellfish Commission's share of the safe use of fertilizer advertisement in the New London Day. The expense was split four ways with surrounding shellfish commissions in the amount of \$202.13 (two hundred and two dollars and thirteen cents) from each commission.

Motion made by Commissioner Drennen, seconded by Commissioner Havens to approve the Treasurer's Report as reviewed. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Monthly Monitoring and Sampling Report

Chairman Lawson stated that the recreational shellfishing areas are currently closed due to over an inch of rainfall.

8. New Business

- a. Discussion regarding goals for the 2021 recreational shell fishing season.

The Commission discussed goals for the 2021 season and focused on getting as much restock into the recreational shellfishing areas as possible. The Commission members also discussed recruiting an additional Commission member to fill the vacant position.

- b. Update regarding the availability of certified little neck clams.

Chairman Lawson stated he has been in contact with suppliers who are telling him that oysters are available but since restaurants have started to re-open after the pandemic the supply of little neck clams are harder to get. He will work on getting supply for a possible restock at the end of June or very early July. He asked the Commission members for help once the product is secured to put them out into the designated waters. The Commission is hoping for a good year in permit sales and restock will help to promote the permit sales.

9. Old Business

Chairman Lawson stated that he did not have anything to discuss regarding Old Business.

10. Public Input regarding Waterford Shellfish Commission Business Only – none.

11. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Francolino, seconded by Commissioner Malley to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

The next regularly scheduled Waterford Shellfish Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Waterford Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer
Recording Secretary for the Town of Waterford Shellfish Commission