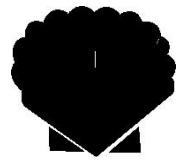




Waterford-East Lyme Shellfish Commission



Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Oct 15, 2026
Waterford Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Members present: Peter Harris, Larry Tytla, Mike Heenehan, Pat Kelly, Marcia Benvenuti, and Rick Kanter

Members absent: Paul Spakowski, Fred Wise

Guests: Warden Dave Simpson

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm and a quorum was established.
- 2) Secretary's minutes from Sep 17, 2026 regular meeting was approved on a motion by Mr. Tytla, seconded by Mr. Heenehan, motion vote 5-0, Ms. Benvenuti abstained.
- 3) Treasurer's Reports – Mr. Kelly gave the treasurers report. Report was approved on a motion from Mr. Tytla, seconded by Mr. Kanter, motion vote 6-0.
- 4) Warden's comments : Mr. Simpson gave the warden report to the commission. The Niantic River has been closed often this summer due to rainfall.
- 5) Old business :
 - a. Discussion on purchase of clam/oyster stock – Mr. Harris spoke with CW Shellfish about the clam purchase and delivery. The commission is flexible on delivery dates in October. Oysters will be obtained and distributed on a different day, to be determined.
 - b. Scallop season preparation – permits have been printed and will be distributed
 - c. Save the River-Save the Hills (STR-STH) offer to assist with the purchase of shellfish was discussed further. Mr. Harris will e-mail STR-STH to get more details on their offer.
- 6) New business -
 - a. No new business was brought forward.
- 7) Ex-officio comments : East Lyme ex-officio was not in attendance.
- 8) Correspondence : Mr. Harris discussed various correspondence he rec'd including DA/BA opening/closing of the Niantic River, e-mail from the town of Waterford on commission's annual reports and the 2027 meeting schedule, communication from CW shellfish on logistics of clam delivery, and an e-mail regarding a Quahog seminar to be held in November.
- 9) Public comment : a. Mr. Heenehan discussed his work to potentially open the West Black Point area for recreational shellfishing in the future.
- 10) Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm on a motion from Mr. Tytla, seconded by Mr. Kanter, motion approved 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Harris