

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
SHELLFISH COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES – October 13, 2010**

The Shellfish Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a meeting on October 13, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Honorable John J. Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edward Crowley Jr., Chairman; Sanford J. Wakeman Jr., Vice Chairman; Sally Harold; Cathy Raynor-Catropa; David Thornton

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregory D. Lanute, Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Thomas J. Steinke, Conservation Director

CALL TO ORDER: Edward Crowley Jr., Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM

I. BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Resignation of Commissioner S. James Baum, MD

The Commission received a letter of resignation from commission member S. James Baum, MD. Letters were received from Bill Kenney and Paul Nelson who are interested in rejoining the commission.

B. Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2010

Sally Harold. *moved*, Sandy Wakeman *seconded* to accept the minutes September 15, 2010. *Motion passed unanimously.*

B. Committee Reports

1. *Clam Relay/Planting:* Crowley – It was reported that D.J. Williams has spread about 80 bushels of clams on the beds at Sasco Beach – these consist of cherry stones and topnecks. While the commission had reserved some funds for this, Mr. Williams donated the clams and his time.
2. *Water and Habitat Quality:* Wakeman, Harold, Raynor-Catropa – Sanford J. Wakeman Jr. reported that he and Cathy Raynor-Catropa collected water samples from Mill River but the results have not been returned by DA/BA.
3. *Permits and Access:* Thornton – No report presented this evening
4. *Commercial Shellfish Regulations:* Crowley, Wakeman, Harold – No report presented this evening

5. *Oyster Bed Development*: Lanute, Thornton, Harold – No report presented this evening

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Sanitary Survey of Shoreline – Status

The planned shoreline sanitary survey has been revised based on comments received and is being reviewed by the WPC. Once approved, an RFP will be written and presented to purchasing and sent out for public and legal review.

B. Report on Coordination for Conducting a Shellfish Plant (hard clam) to the Recreational Shellfish Beds

No discussion

C. Report on Coordination for Conducting a Shellfish Relay to the Recreational Shellfish Beds

Jim Salce is willing to conduct a relay in the open area of Sasco and expects 70-80 mixed clams/day. He requests \$500/day to pay his crew of three. There will be no other charges to the town. He would also like to do a sweep through the harbor to check on resources there. If it is high tide he will check the mud flats as well. He expects to out for at least two days.

Dave Carey of DA/BA expects a ten day closure due to anticipated storms/rainfall.

D. J. Williams is working on an approximate \$1,500 grant to secure water-testing equipment to enable more frequent and accurate testing of specific areas so that beds in those areas with passing test results might be able to stay open when other affected beds are closed.

D. Clam Clinic Scheduled for October 16, 2010

The clam digging clinic scheduled for October 16 will likely be postponed due to anticipated poor weather.

III. NEW BUSINESS

None

IV. INFORMATIONAL

- A. 2010-2011 Budget Expenditure Status – Informational
- B. Shellfish Fund Balance – Informational
- C. License Permits issued through September 30, 2010 – Informational
- D. Town of Westport Shellfish Commission Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2010 and Agenda of October 5, 2010 – Informational
- E. Town of Fairfield Harbor Management Commission Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2010 and Draft Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2010 – Informational
- F. Phone calls for status of open or closed for September 2010– Informational

V. OTHER

Thomas J. Steinke reported on the budget for the shoreline sanitary survey may cost more than the \$15,000 the Commission allocated for it. The allocation is approximately \$20,000.

Thomas J. Steinke also reported that the Exide remediation of the Mill River is being negotiated at DEP. Exide would like to have no blackout dates to enable them to work on an uninterrupted schedule. This could have impacts to spawning fish, shellfish beds, etc., but would increase the number of days they could work and therefore reduce the number of months they will need to complete the job. They are agreeing, thus far, to remediate to the 220 mg/kg lead in the sediment. An agreement with Superior Coating will need to be negotiated, and that remediation plan to address chromium pollution, will be bundled with the Exide clean up. The clean up may still take a few years to be completed.

Edward Crowley Jr. named a nominating committee of David Thornton, Sally Harold, and Sanford J. Wakeman Jr. to fill the vacancy on the Commission left by S. James Baum, MD.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Sanford J. Wakeman Jr. moved, David Thornton seconded to adjourn at 8:22 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Harold and Anthony Monelli