

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD  
SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES – September 12, 2012**

The Shellfish Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a regular meeting on September 12, 2012 at 7:30 PM in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Fairfield Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, Connecticut

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sanford J. Wakeman, Chairman; David Thornton, Secretary; Robert Bilek; Sally Harold; Paul Nelson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gregory D. Lanute, Vice Chairman; Cathy Raynor-Catropa

**ALSO PRESENT:** Thomas J. Steinke, Conservation Director

**CALL TO ORDER:** Sanford J. Wakeman, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

**I. BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2012

1. Sally Harold *moved*, David Thornton *seconded* to accept the minutes of August 22, 2012 as corrected [Page 1, Item I, Section B, Subsection 2, 2nd line, misspelling of the word “joined”; Page 3, Item II, Section C, Paragraph 2, 4th line, misspelling of the word "potential"; Page 5, Item III, Section D, Paragraph 3, 2nd line, omitting the word "open"]. *Motion passed unanimously.*
2. Sally Harold *moved*, David Thornton *seconded* to accept the minutes of August 29, 2012 relating to a meeting with DA/BA. *Motion passed unanimously.*

B. Committee Reports

1. *Clam Relay/Planting:* Bilek, Thornton – David Thornton and Robert Bilek have been researching the types of shellfish available and have been in contact with commercial shellfishermen. Pequot Yacht Club may be completing a relay in the north anchorage with Jim Salce. Robert Bilek suggested that the Commission may want to replenish shellfish in the recreational beds with the shellfish that Jim Salce gets from the north anchorage. Robert Bilek also discussed the planting and replenishment of clams in the recreational bed by purchasing clams and the Shellfish Fund could be used for this purpose.

Robert Bilek *moved*, Sally Harold *seconded* to approve the expenditure of up to and not including \$3,000 from the Shellfish Fund to purchase clams to replenish recreational beds. *Motion passed unanimously.*

2. *Water and Habitat Quality*: Bilek, Wakeman, Harold, Raynor-Catropa – The Commissioners discussed sampling in the north anchorage and the quality of the habitat with relation to the side slopes. Thomas J. Steinke discussed the logistics of a relay in the north anchorage and placement of clams.

Sanford J. Wakeman reported that the recreational beds have been open for approximately three weeks since the last closure.

David Thornton and Thomas J. Steinke discussed currents in the Long Island Sound and how current and tide shift affect where sewage outfalls dissipate.

3. *Permits and Access*: Thornton – No report presented this evening
4. *Commercial Shellfish Regulations*: Wakeman, Harold – No report presented this evening
5. *Oyster Bed Development*: Lanute, Thornton, Harold – No report presented this evening

## II. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Proposed Remediation of the Mill River estuary associated with the former Exide Battery Site, 2190 Post Road, Fairfield CT/Superior Plating

Thomas J. Steinke reported that other agencies will be acting on or approving permits before DEEP does. He discussed public notice and comment periods relating to DEEP applications.

### B. CT DEEP-OLISP, Application #2004000100-TS, Fairfield Harbor Management Commission, removal of derelict structures, repair existing pier, install new community sailing dock consisting of ramp, float and piles; repair and expand existing boat ramp, install float atop existing boat ramp; conduct new dredging for recreational boating. Proposed activities to be conducted at the Lower Wharf and Ye Yacht Yard

Sanford J. Wakeman reported that no response has been received from the First Selectman. Thomas J. Steinke briefly received the procedure thus far. Sanford J. Wakeman indicated that he would follow up with the First Selectman's office.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

A. CT DEEP-OLISP, Pre-Application of Anthony Casola to replace existing bulkhead and installation of a floating dock, ramp, and access platford at 1871 Fairfield Beach Road

Thomas J. Steinke reported that proposed dock would be replaced by cutting off the dock below the mud line, and the bulkhead would be pulled back landward of the existing line. The new dock would be pile-supported.

Thomas J. Steinke's concerns are similar to those in the last few projects along Pine Creek, namely the old dock pilings preventing the natural scouring of the channel bed and the float and vessel infringing on the integrity of the channel. He recommends that the applicant provide revised plans that will show the typical float and boat on both sides of the channel, and move the proposed float bulkhead landward as needed to maintain the 50 foot fairway. Additionally, the dock pilings and other debris 10 feet in front of the bulkhead should be completely removed. He recommends that the Commission endorse the proposal as having no adverse impact on shellfish habitat, with the conditions aforementioned.

David Thornton *moved*, Robert Bilek *seconded* to endorse the application with conditions of providing plans showing the typical float and boat in order to maintain the 50 foot fairway, removal of the pilings for the existing dock, and removal of debris 10 feet out from the bulkhead. *Motion passed unanimously.*

### IV. INFORMATIONAL

None

### V. OTHER

Sanford J. Wakeman inquired the status of the answering machine for the recreational shellfish bed status.

Thomas J. Steinke discussed a type of shellfish-borne bacterial disease that could be a problem locally.

The Commissioners and Thomas J. Steinke discussed future relays and logistical issues relating to use of watercraft.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Sally Harold *moved*, David Thornton *seconded* to adjourn at 8:55 PM. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Anthony Monelli