

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD  
SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES – September 11, 2013**

The Shellfish Commission of the Town of Fairfield held a regular meeting on September 11, 2013 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; Robert Bilek, Vice-Chairman; David Thornton, Secretary; Richard Ferrari; Sally Harold; Paul Nelson; Cathy Raynor-Catropa

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mary von Conta, Harbor Management Commission; Jim Salce

**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 14, 2013

Robert Bilek *moved*, Richard Ferrari *seconded* to accept the minutes of August 14, 2013.  
*Motion passed unanimously.*

B. Committee Reports

1. *Clam Relay/Planting:* Bilek, Thornton – The commissioners discussed a possible relay to be conducted in the fall from the Town of Fairfield beds to the recreational beds at Sasco Hill Beach. The commissioners discussed whether there would be enough clams to warrant a relay. Robert Bilek will make a proposal at the October meeting.
2. *Water and Habitat Quality:* Bilek, Wakeman, Harold, Raynor-Catropa – Sanford Wakeman noted that the recreational bed at Sasco was open all month.
3. *Permits and Access:* Thornton – No report
4. *Commercial Shellfish Regulations:* Wakeman, Harold – No report
5. *Oyster Bed Development:* Thornton, Harold – No report

## II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Proposed Remediation of the Mill River Estuary associated with the former Exide Battery Site, 2190 Post Road, Fairfield, CT: Discussion regarding mitigation measures by Exide; Report by Sally Harold regarding fish ladder requirement for the Tide Mill Dam; and overall status

Sally Harold reported that OLISP approved the Tide Mill Dam repairs, and CT DEEP Fisheries was not included in the permitting process so no fish ladder was required.

B. CT DEEP Application of Susan Page Snow to install pier, ramp and floating dock in Pine Creek, at 1722 Fairfield Beach Road, Fairfield

Robert Bilek *moved*, Sally Harold *seconded* to endorse the proposal as presented. *Motion passed unanimously.*

C. Shellfish Commission Management Plan

Paul Nelson indicated we would discuss this at a future meeting.

D. Letter to Parks and Recreation Commission regarding commercial shellfishermen access to a town dock for off-loading harvested shellfish

The Commissioners discussed commercial shellfishermen off-loading at South Benson Marina or at Ye Old Yacht Yard in Southport Harbor. South Benson would be preferred since there is a steeper ramp in Southport and Southport is shallow at the dock at low tide. The Parks and Recreation Commission will discuss this again at a sub-committee meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2013.

E. CT DEEP-OLISP permit application of the Town of Fairfield Public Works Department and Engineering Department to conduct maintenance dredging of navigational channel to South Benson Marina and Ash Creek

The preliminary application was reviewed and approved in 2012. This is the final application.

Robert Bilek *moved*, Sally Harold *seconded* to endorse the proposal as presented assuming there are no changes. *Motion passed unanimously.*

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

Robert Bilek moved and Sally Harold seconded a motion to add the topic of an October Clam Dig to the meeting agenda for discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

After some discussion, Richard Ferrari mentioned several reasons why it would be better to hold the next Clam Dig in the spring or summer, and the Commissioners agreed it would be best to wait.

### **IV. INFORMATIONAL**

A. The NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Open House will be held on October 19, 2013 in Milford. Robert Bilek noted that he and Sanford Wakeman will attend, and Cathy Raynor-Catropa also agreed to attend.

### **V. OTHER**

None

### **VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, David Thornton moved, Sally Harold seconded to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anthony Monelli