

Town of Greenwich Shellfish Commission Meeting,

February 17th 2009 Minutes

Present: Roger Bowgen, Chairman; Bill Fossum; Bill Cameron; Walt Alder; Peter Janis; Frank Cantelmo; Bill Grempp; Carol Rogers, Shellfish Coordinator

Absent: Rick Kral, Sue Baker

Guests: Michael Aurelia; Denise Savageau; Ed Stilwagen; Jadar Nygaard

The meeting was called to order at 5.35 pm

1. Minutes – The minutes from the January 13th, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously

2. Coordinators report: Sampling for January was frozen out; all samples were taken February 7th.

One quotation for the boat covers from Hathaways via Walt at \$2200 more to follow. Spare boat key to be kept on the boat so it readily accessible

3. Treasurers report: Main Account balance \$258071 – operating account \$19239.

It was agreed that the following amounts should be added as line items for the experience the Sound event in May of 2009 – total \$7000 covering – Peter Janis cost of \$1500, Advertising costs of \$2000, Poster graphic art cost of \$500, T Shirts etc cost of \$1500. Town Printing costs of \$500 and \$1000 contingency cost.

4. Scholarship – Peter Janis advised that there had been no response from the Scholarship Committee concerning the Commission's stipulation that it should have final approval of the project selected to receive the scholarship. He would check once more. If this was not acceptable then the commission would not move forward with the Scholarship Committee.

5. Shellfish Cooking Event: Bill Cameron to finalise the dates when possible and to include active Wardens as guests.

March 21st to be the next public shellfish Demonstration date at the Point. Roger to advise the press. Girl Scouts, CCI etc.

6. Experience the Sound. The date was revised to Sunday May 17th from 1pm to 4pm. Roger will provide list of participants, letter of invitation/operational letter and the Poster/trifold graphics at the March meeting so that the Commission can start to move forward on this event immediately. The letter of request for the reservation of this date has been sent to the Town .

7. Oyster bed opening – approved as March 1st. Bill Grempp to alert all wardens by e-mail.

8. Oyster project at Cos Cob. (BHH location) Roger to request Sue Baker to ask GHS to make a formal presentation to the Commission as to exactly what they are doing. As this is to be an ongoing educational project there has to be a forward plan. And a detailed scope of what is to be achieved. If a portion of the oysters are to be relayed out this has to be permitted and take place within April .

Oyster beds around the old Cos Cob Power station area. The potential to remove the oysters from this restricted site to a relay location was discussed. Denise Savageau advised the Commission that there was evidence of Mercury contamination in this area because of fly ash from the Powerstation entering the water. Frank Cantelmo cautioned that Mercury could be retained permanently in oysters.

It was agreed that Frank and Denise would work together on this. All discussion about relaying oysters from this area is to be put on hold until further testing etc has been completed and the resulting recommendations based upon the findings are considered.

9. West Avenue kulch – to be spread in May/June- Roger to advise the homeowners

10 Queen Anne Building funding project – status to be updated during March meeting so that the Commission can make a final decision on assisiting in the funding of this project.

11. New Business ...Bill Cameron and Jadar Nygaard drew the Commissions attention to the new Tax being poposed by the State of Connecticut on Commercial Shellfisherman of \$1 a bushell and the fear that this could also spread to recreational shellfishing. it was agreed to monitor this.

The next meeting will be on March 10th, 2009 @ 5.30pm .Michael Doall will give a presentation on his study of clams in Greenwich Cove.

The meeting adjourned at 6.35pm.