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City of Norwalk Shellfish Commission Meeting May 3, 2018 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 6:03 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Pat DeVito, Steve Bartush, Pete Johnson

Staff: Thomas Closter

Police: Sgt. Pete LaPak

Advisory: Captain Dave Hopp

Guests: Doug Stabell, Tim Pramer, Geoff Steadman, Dr. John Pinto, Debora Goldstein, Sue Prosi, Tony D'Andrea

PUBLIC COMMENT

Debora Goldstein spoke regarding concerns that there appears to be no intent to appoint members to the Water Quality Committee.

Sue Prosi introduced herself as the Norwalk Walk Bridge Manager and is a point of contact for the Walk Bridge Project. She explained her role, scope of the project and how she will work with different stakeholders.

Several concerns were brought up including a program to monitor water quality during the project, testing, filtration, monitoring turbidity, dredging, dewatering, silt curtains, activities performed only during incoming and slack tides and future of the visitor's dock.

Tony D'Andrea stated there should have been an Environmental Review consistent with a Federal Project of this size and discussed the need for best management practices.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

April Minutes approved with no corrections by Comm. DeVito, 2nd by Comm. Bartush. Unanimous Vote.

TREASURER

Comm. DeVito reports:

	NAME	DATE	AMOUNT	REASON
BALANCE		3/31/18	\$22,289.04	
DEPOSIT	Pramer Oyster	4/6/18	\$ 24.50	Seed Oyster
	Town of Westport	4/3/18	\$ 71.12	Phone Bill
INTEREST	April		\$ 28.00	
EXPENSES	Frontier	4/19 to 5/18	(\$ 70.94)	Phone
BALANCE		4/30/18		\$22,341.72

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Last Year	4/30/17	\$19,730.61
Two Years Ago	4/30/16	\$13,701.90

SECRETARY

Commissioner Johnson reiterated his concerns to establish a program to monitor water quality during the Walk Bridge project.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports: 5.93 inches of rain in April. Average since 1987 is 4.12 inches of rain for April. There were 207 calls in April. There were three closures for Cooke's Ground for over .5 inch on April 2, 16 & 20, 2018. There was one closure in the CAA (1-1.49 inches) on April 16, 2018. There was one closure in the CAA1DN (over 1.5 inches) on April 16, 2018.

There were two reports of a bypass for April.

4-16-18	5,000,000 Gallons	Treatment Plant	9.5 Hours Storm Flow
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4-16-18	14,000 Gallons	56 Beacon St	2.5 Hours Storm Flow
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WASTEWATER

Commissioner Bartush attended meeting, mainly held in Executive Session, no report.

WATER QUALITY

Tony D'Andrea reports salinity at 23 and oxygen at 22.5.

PERMITS

Commissioner DeVito said Fisherman's World is selling permits for 2018 and they are going well. Marvin Beach pump station is starting project.

POLICE

Sgt. LaPak attended meeting but needed to leave early for another meeting in Norwalk City Hall.

ADVISORY

Water temperature reported at 54 degrees.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

Geoff Steadman stated next Harbor Management meeting is set for May 23, 2018.

He also stated the coastal area requires significant attention in not only the Norwalk Harbor Management Plan, the City's master plan of water-use and conservation, but also the Norwalk Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), the City's master plan of land-use and conservation. As part of the process of updating the POCD in 2018, the Norwalk Harbor Management Commission (NHMC) has prepared a report on coastal management for consideration by the Planning Commission and POCD Oversight Committee.

Motion to accept committee reports by Commissioner Bartush, second by Commissioner DeVito. Unanimous Vote.

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OLD BUSINESS

Shellfish Commissioners made a site visit to 17 Bluff Ave regarding a coastal application for a new private residential dock to ascertain if shellfish resources will be affected. The Norwalk Shellfish Commission's review of the site revealed it to be an active natural bed including oysters, hardshell clams, ribbed mussels and Spartina.

The Shellfish Commission's proposal was for the pier to be shortened from the 55' proposal to 40', with the ramp lengthened to meet the floating dock waterward to the ~92' maximum.

Commissioner Bartush has had ongoing discussions with Danielle Missell of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the consultant for the project states that in order to shorten the proposed pier length from 55' to 40' and increase the ramp length from 34' to 49' the size of the float would have to increase. The Shellfish Commission supports a pier 40' waterward from the current stake.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Bartush discussed a recent story involving a cluster of norovirus-like illness associated with consuming raw oysters.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 7, 2018 @6:00pm Health Department Library.

**ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner DeVito, second by Commissioner Bartush,
Vote Unanimous 8:05 PM**

Minutes by Thomas Closter