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City of Norwalk Shellfish Commission Meeting April 5, 2018 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Pat DeVito, Steve Bartush, Nick Sacchinelli, Pete Johnson, Steve Kvance
Staff: Thomas Closter
Police: Sgt. Pete LaPak
Advisory: Captain Dave Hopp
Guests: Doug Stabell, Tim Pramer, Geoff Steadman

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

March Minutes approved with no corrections by Comm. DeVito, 2nd by Comm. Sacchinelli. Unanimous Vote.

TREASURER

Comm. DeVito reports:

	NAME	DATE	AMOUNT	REASON
BALANCE		2/28/18	\$22,181.66	
DEPOSIT	Pramer Oyster	3/28/18	\$ 172.50	Seed Oyster
INTEREST	Feb/March		\$ 6.00	
EXPENSES	Frontier	3/19 to 4/18	(\$ 71.12)	Phone
BALANCE		3/31/18		\$22,289.04
	Last Year	3/31/17		\$19,640.75
	Two Years Ago	3/31/16		\$13,843.38

SECRETARY

Commissioner Johnson received a Permit Consultation Form from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection from All Seasons Marine Works doing business as White Bridge Marina to perform maintenance (70%) and new (30%) dredging at 167 Rowayton Avenue. After discussion, the Shellfish Commission stated that there will be no comment until the Five Mile River Commission has seen and approved the application.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports: 4.38 inches of rain in March. Average since 1987 is 4.20 inches of rain for March. There were 213 calls in March. There were two closures for Cooke's Ground for over .5 inch on March 2 & 7, 2018. There were two closures in the CAA (1-1.49 inches) on March 2 & 7, 2018. There were two closures in the CAA1DN (over 1.5 inches) on March 2 & 7, 2018.

There was one report of a bypass for March.

3-26-18 200 Gallons 11 Hawkins Ave 1 Hour

WASTEWATER

None

WATER QUALITY

Commissioner Bartush attended meeting and the following items were discussed. Marvin Beach forced main went out to bid, new budget and rates approved and septic trucks need approval from DPW Director and WPCA Board.

PERMITS

Commissioner DeVito said Fisherman's World has permits for 2018 and will have better idea on how permits are selling when the weather is better.

POLICE

Sgt. LaPak reports 4 hours of patrol for March. Last week a boat sank at 1 Selleck St. and there was a small gas discharge. Ct Tank Removal and the Coast Guard were on site and no dangerous material left the area. Very little activity for clamming. Flags need to be re-rigged.

ADVISORY

Water temperature reported at 41 degrees.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

Geoff Steadman discussed Permit Consultation Form from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection from Eversource for Walk Bridge Replacement Project regarding underground cables moving through the Visitors Dock and Boat Ramp. Cables would start at Police Station, go underground down Elizabeth St to a pit, underneath federal channel, under visitor's dock near pilings through parking lot to Seaview Avenue. The Shellfish Commission has sent comments that the work described will adversely impact a shellfish area. The newly renovated Visitor's Dock location is unacceptable due to the location of its pilings and floats in relation to the proposed lines. The design will restrict future maintenance and improvements and the Commission needs more details in terms of directional boring capability.

Mr. Steadman also discussed the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Draft Permit to install a temporary submarine signal and communication cable for infrastructure improvements upstream of Metro North Railroad Bridge. The activities include removing and eventually reinstalling several existing timber piles at the existing pivot pier and rest pier fender systems, install floating turbidity curtains around the trench area, use barge mounted equipment and mechanically remove existing sediment, place a

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temporary static line within the excavated trench, backfill the excavated trench and install cable mounting brackets. Harbor Commission does not support the plan at this time and has concerns regarding how material will be disposed of, need for water quality monitoring to protect shellfish resources, backfilling of trench to take place only on incoming or slack tide, effectiveness of turbidity curtains, profiles for metals and organics and dredging only on an incoming tide.

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

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 17 Bluff application is complete. The area has been determined to be an *active* natural bed including oysters, hardshell clams, ribbed mussels and *Spartina*.

As a compromise to allow the applicant the full ~92' pier/ramp/dock, we propose 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.

If the pier was 40' with the currently proposed ramp/dock, this would extend ~77'. As measured in the water this week, there is only ~7" of water difference between the 77" and 92' marks. Winter removal of the ramp and dock is requested.

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 3, 2018 @6:00pm Health Department Library.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner DeVito, second by Commissioner Bartush, Vote Unanimous 7:29 PM

Minutes by Thomas Closter