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SHELLFISH COMMISSION

TOWN HALL – 110 MYRTLE AVENUE WESTPORT, CT 06880 P 203.341.1087 F 203.341.1088

MINUTES WESTPORT SHELLFISH COMMISSION OCTOBER 3, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members:
Heather Williams, Chair
Jamie Walsh, Vice-Chair
Sam Arciola
Dick Harris
Barry Lytton
Jay Grayson, Alternate
Clarinda Higgins, Alternate

Ex-Officios:

Colin Kelly, Conservation Director

Staff:

Susan Voris, Admin. Asst. II

Guests:

Tim Bishop, Fairfield Conservation Director Scott Reichhelm, potential Shellfish Commission member Rachel Precious, raw bar/shucking business owner Matt Murray

The October 3, 2022 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Room 309 of the Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Ave., Westport, Connecticut, by Chairman, Heather Williams.

This is to certify that these minutes and resolutions were filed with the Westport Town Clerk within 7 days of the October 3, 2022 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission pursuant to Section 1-225 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Colin Kelly	
Conservation Director	

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1. New Business

a. Discussion with Tim Bishop regarding Fairfield's shell recycling program

Mr. Bishop discussed the Fairfield's shell recycling program. He stated he has increased the size of the shell area and they have the capacity to take more shell. The shell piles are behind the Conservation warehouse. The shell dumping area has full sun access. They are working with curbside composting. They currently work with 5 to 10 restaurants to collect and recycle the shell. The Commissioners work the shell. He has added a 100 gallon can for the public to deposit shell. Mr. Bishop indicated that they will be updating their webpage to add more information about the shell recycling.

Mr. Kelly suggested that Westport could add that link to our website.

Commissioners asked for information about what restaurants currently participate and expressed interest in helping.

2. Approval of the August 3, 2022 minutes.

The August 3, 2022 minutes were approved with corrections.

Motion: Higgins Second: Harris Ayes: Higgins, Harris, Arciola, Lytton, Walsh, Williams

Naves: None Abstentions: None Vote: 6:0:0

3. Police Report

Ms. Voris stated she spoke with Cpl. Fearon. The season is mostly over. The boats are out of the water. There was some overtime done during the season but it was mistakenly reported as regular overtime.

4. Treasurers Report

Ms. Williams read the checking account balance ending August 31, 2022 into the record.

Mr. Grayson arrived at 7:00 p.m.

5. Recreational Shellfish Report

Ms. Voris submitted the following report into the record:

The Commission has issued **552 annual recreational permits** as of September 30, 2022. There were **377** renewals and **175** new permits. (68.3%/31.7%)

Adult Resident Permits issued –	301	(\$	9,000.00)
Senior Resident Permits issued –	226	(\$	3,285.00)
Adult Non-resident Permits issued –	17	(\$	1,020.00)
Senior Non-resident Permits issued –	8	(\$	240.00)
Daily Permits issued -	16	(\$	240.00)

The Commission has collected **\$13,785.00** since December 20, 2021 when we began issuing the 2022 recreational shellfishing permits.

7 senior permits were issued to people who are 85 and older for free.

Month	Days Open	Days Closed	Total Days
January	31	0	31
February	28	0	28
March	31	0	31
April	30	0	30

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May	14	17	31
June	27	3	30
July	20	11	31
August	31	0	31
September	14	16	30
October			
November			
December			
•	226	47	273

Notes:

Closure Events

5/10/22 -Transplant
6/15/22 - sewage by-pass from Norwalk
7/18/22 - rainfall event 2.94"
9/6/22 - rainfall event 2.85 "
9/13/22 - rainfall event 1.72"

- 6. Old Business None
- 7. Other Business
 - **a.** Mr. Harris reported another Mitten Crab has been sited in Muddy Brook near Rockwell Place. There are also three known invasive shrimp in Connecticut.

The October 3, 2022 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Motion:HigginsSecond:HarrisAyes:Higgins, Harris, Arciola, Grayson, Lytton, Walsh, WilliamsNayes:NayesAbstentions:NoneVote:7:0:0