

**MINUTES
WESTPORT SHELLFISH COMMISSION
JULY 14, 2014**

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members:

Ron Silverman, Chair
Leo Cirino
Matt Dembski
Heather Williams

Ex-Officios:

Alicia Mozian, Conservation Director
Robert Myer, Westport Marine Police
Mark Cooper, Director, Westport/Weston Health District

Staff:

Susan Voris, Recording Secretary

Guests:

Jonathan Farber, property owner
James Bajek, applicant, 42 Shorehaven Road

The July 14, 2014 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission was called to order at 6:15 p.m. in Room 201 of the Westport Town Hall, 110 Myrtle Ave., Westport, Connecticut, by Chairman, Ron Silverman.

This is to certify that these minutes and resolutions were filed with the Westport Town Clerk within 7 days of the July 14, 2014 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission pursuant to Section 1-225 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Alicia Mozian
Conservation Director

It was the sense of the Commission to postpone any transplant activity until the fall when the recreational beds would not have to be closed.

6. Old Business

- a. **42 Shorehaven Road:** Review and comment on CT DEEP Structures, Dredge & Fill coastal application to repair and modify an existing stone and concrete pier and add another section (pile supported timber) to the pier and a boat lift and 2 davits in Long Island Sound.

Jim Bajek, permit consultant, gave an orientation to the site. He stated there has been a water depth survey and site survey done. The property has an existing stone and masonry pier built in the 1950's or 1960's. The area of the proposed work is open water with no channel. The existing pier will be used as a platform to install the extension. They will be adding a 30-foot timber extension with a boat lift and two davits. They will slightly raise and cap the top of the stone pier. The owner has a powerboat and a couple of wave runners. There will be no ramp or floats in this project. He stated they replied to the Commission's comments in a June 11, 2014 letter, in which they hope to have addressed all the Commission's concerns.

Ms. Mozian referred to the Commission's letter and item number 3 concerning safety to guard against storm events since the dock is in the high velocity flood zone and below the 100 year flood elevation.

Mr. Bajek noted the Roberge Associates' letter that the project was designed to withstand a 1% annual chance storm event (i.e. 100 year floodplain).

Jonathan Farber, property owner, added that he would move the boat if a storm event was expected.

Officer Myer stated he was concerned with boat usage and work within the natural bed.

Mr. Farber acknowledged the limited use of the boat lift and discussed other options that had been considered. His boat has a 9-inch draft.

Ms. Williams asked if there were any similar structures in the area out into Long Island Sound.

A review of the GIS maps showed there were none in the immediate area but there were some nearby.

Mr. Bajek stated there would be 9 piles installed by water at high tide. The piles can be installed in a couple of days. There is no commercial shellfishing activity in the area. There are no navigation concerns.

Officer Myer stated the fact that there are no docks in that area of these natural beds is a major concern and that something could happen to the beds during construction and boat usage.

Mr. Farber stated there are 6 docks present going towards Norwalk.

The Commission had the following comments:

- Consideration should be given to decreasing the size of the boat lift with comments submitted from the engineer as to feasibility;
- Recommend a stop system so that the boat lift cannot go into the mud; and
- Time of construction should be limited to October to May.

7. Other Business

a. Annual Clambake

The Commission discussed possible dates for the annual clambake and the location.

b. Logo

Dr. Silverman stated he had been at an event at which he met a young girl who drew him a proposed logo that the Commission has been talking about. While it does not depict a mollusk, he shared the drawing with the Commission.

Ms. Mozian is going to see about entering the drawing into the Long Island Sound Council calendar contest.

- c.** Ms. Mozian highlighted the Fairfield Shellfish Commission minutes. She noted that the Bureau of Aquaculture was at a recent meeting at which discussion of reopening Southport beach in 2016 was discussed.

8. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission will be held on August 6, 2014 at 6:15 p.m. in Room 309 of Westport Town Hall.

9. Adjournment:

The Shellfish Commission adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Motion:	Silverman	Second:	Williams
Ayes:	Silverman, Williams, Cirino, Dembsky		
Nays:	None	Abstentions:	None
		Vote:	4:0:0