



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

**WESTPORT™**

**MINUTES  
WESTPORT SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
MAY 1, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

Commission Members:

Jamie Walsh, Chair  
Barry Lytton, Vice-Chair  
Dick Harris  
Jesse Harte  
Clarinda Higgins, Alternate  
Heather Williams, Alternate

Ex-Officios:

Colin Kelly, Conservation Director

Staff:

Susan Voris, Admin. Asst. III

The May 1, 2024 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 May 1, 2024 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission pursuant to Section 1-225 of the Freedom of Information Act.

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Colin Kelly  
Conservation Director



<b>May</b>				
<b>June</b>				
<b>July</b>				
<b>August</b>				
<b>September</b>				
<b>October</b>				
<b>November</b>				
<b>December</b>				
		<b>73</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>121</b>

**Notes:**

**Closure Events**

- 1/9 - 1.93" rainfall event
- 3/6 - 2.16" rainfall event
- 3/7 - closure event due Bed 409 public health issue keeping beds closed minimum 21 day
- 3/7 - sewer line break and spill at pump station 9/ Hillandale Road into Muddy Brook
- 3/12 - sewage spill at pump station with bypass into Silver Brook
- 3/23 - 3.02" rainfall event
- 4/3/24 - >1.5" rainfall event
- 4/29 - sewage bypass in Norwalk impacting the Saugatuck River

**6. Old Business**

- a.** Possible booth at Farmers Market – B. Lytton to provide detail

Mr. Lytton stated that as a non-profit there would be no costs for the Commission to set up at the Farmers Market. The Commission could pick three dates. He has reached out to Tessa Getchiss about getting some informational materials for the booth. He asked about the Commission’s opinion about serving oysters as a way of providing interest in the resources available.

Members and staff noted that there may be requirements from the Health District that would have to be fulfilled in order to do this.

- b.** Continue discussion about free permits for indigenous individuals

This agenda item was tabled to a later meeting.

**7. Other Business:**

- a.** Recognition and congratulations to Dick Harris for “Unsung Hero Award” from Special Olympics Connecticut.

Mr. Walsh recognized Mr. Harris for his outstanding work to the community.

- b.** Marketing Materials – R. Higgins to provide detail of Fairfield efforts.

Ms. Higgins stated the Fairfield Shellfish Commission has produced a flyer with a QR code linked to their application. The flyer is geared toward shellfishing being a family activity. They have the flyer available at the library. They also have a waterproof sign with the QR code.

- c. Mr. Harris stated he has 2 high school interns for six weeks through Staples. He has the idea of studying Deadman's Brook for bacteria, PFA's and neonicotinoids. The State lab has reviewed his protocols and is on board. He has the lab for the bacteria study. The test kits for the PFAs study. The neonicotinoids study will cost \$2,250. He has a grant for \$1,100. There is no other study that has been done like this anywhere in the State. He is looking for grant funding to cover the remaining balance.

Motion to approve \$1,150 for testing.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>Walsh</b>	<b>Second:</b>	<b>Harte</b>
<b>Ayes:</b>	<b>Walsh, Harte, Harris, Higgins, Lytton, Williams</b>		
<b>Nayes:</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Abstentions:</b>	<b>None</b>
		<b>Vote:</b>	<b>6:0:0</b>

## 8. Next Steps

The May 1, 2024 meeting of the Westport Shellfish Commission adjourned at 7:35 p.m.