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City of Norwalk Shellfish Commission Meeting May 7, 2020 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 7:15 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission: Steve Bartush, Pete Johnson, Nick Sacchinelli, Tom Mattera, Joe Madaffari

Staff: Thomas Closter

Police:

Advisory:

Guests: Joe Schnierlein, Tim Pramer, Tony Mobilia, John Romano, Tom Ryder

MEETING WAS HELD BY ZOOM

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Ryder from LandTech Consulting discussed a plan for a new recreational dock at 1 Cudlipp St. A site visit will be made by the Commission and the application will be discussed at the June Shellfish Meeting. John Romano said it is a good idea if a member of the Harbor Commission accompanies the Shellfish Commission when they perform site visits for dock applications.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

March Minutes approved with no corrections by Comm. Bartush, 2nd by Comm. Mattera. Unanimous Vote.

TREASURER

Report:

	NAME	DATE	AMOUNT	REASON
BALANCE		3/1/20	\$19,561.19	
DEPOSIT	All Seasons	Harbor	\$ 347.45	Boat Repairs
	All Seasons	Harbor	\$ 1,643.20	Boat Repairs
INTEREST			\$ 25.00	
EXPENSES	Frontier	2/19/20	\$ 76.02	Phone
	Silvermine Press		\$ 959.00	Permits
	Thomas Hart		\$ 1,600.00	Consultant
BALANCE		5/1/20		\$18,941.82
	Last Year	5/1/19		\$22,878.27
	Two Years Ago	5/1/18		\$22,220.78

SECRETARY

Commissioner Bartush thanked and congratulated Sergeant LaPak and Officer Silva on their water rescue May 6, 2020 west of Sheffield Island. He also welcomed back

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Commissioner Madaffari to the Shellfish Commission and thanked him for his years of service and he thanked Norm Bloom for the recent transplant to the recreational beds.

COMMITTEES

HEALTH DEPT

Mr. Closter reports:

5.01 inches of rain in April. Average since 1987 is 4.23 inches of rain for April. There were 253 calls in April. There were four closures for Cooke's Ground for over 0.5 inch on April 9, 13, 24 & 30, 2020. There was one closure in the CAA (1-1.49 inches) and one closure in the CAA1DN (over 1.5 inches) on April 13, 2020.

There were no reports of a bypass for April.

WASTEWATER

No Report.

WATER QUALITY

Chairman Schnierlein said he has talked with Diane Lauricella about drinking water and PFAS and she has concerns about the monitoring process of the Water Departments.

He also talked about State Bill 301 which would ban Chlorpyrifos in Connecticut. Scientific studies have linked it to brain, neurological, organ, and developmental damage in children, autism, cancer, Parkinson's disease, and a whole host of other negative human health issues. He has been notified that Shorehaven Golf Course has not used Chlorpyrifos since the purchase was documented a few years ago.

Chairman Schnierlein has not heard back from the State regarding water quality monitoring in the Harbor. Aquaculture monitoring of PFAS is temporarily put on hold.

Chairman Schnierlein talked about Covid-19 and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Evidence show that chloride compounds can kill the virus and usually the plant uses them but he has concerns about by passes and the possible effect on the shellfish beds.

PERMITS

Commissioner Mattera said that permits at this time were slow, mainly because of the weather.

POLICE

Sgt. LaPak absent, no report.

ADVISORY

Water reported at 51 degrees.

HARBOR MANAGEMENT

John Romano talked about the Water St condominium project and also has concerns about boat locations for the Walk Bridge Project.

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

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OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Bartush made a motion to temporarily suspend seed oyster permit fee collections because of Covid-19. He would like the harvesters to tabulate the number of bags they are collecting. Commissioner Madaffari second the motion. Unanimous Vote.

NEW BUSINESS

The drawings for 52 Shorefront Park were not official surveys and the structure needs to be staked.

The Water St Waterside Development involves the changing of zoning of the properties to remove the Marine Commercial District Designation.

Proposal for a crushed rock storage area for 310 Wilson Ave bordered by a silt curtain that may not prevent the migration of solubilized toxins into the watershed. There is need for a site visit.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 4, 2020 @7:15pm

ADJOURNMENT: 7:46 PM Motion by Steve Bartush, second by Commissioner Mattera, Unanimous Vote.

Minutes by Thomas Closter