

## Deer Isle-Stonington Shellfish Conservacton Committee Meeting

Wendesday December 8 2021 6:00 P.M. at the Deer Isle Town Hall

### Agenda:

1. Reading and acceptance of the minutes from last meeting.

2. A report from the Chair.

3. To amended the Shellfish Ordinance as follows:

3. **Shellfish Conservation Committee**: The Shellfish Conservation Program for the towns of Deer Isle and Stonington will be administered by a Shellfish Conservation Committee consisting of up to five but no less than three members from each town, to be appointed by the Selectboard of each Town for a term of three years. Any committee member who has more than three unexcused absences from Committee meetings in a twelve month period may be removed and replaced with a new member by the Selectboard.

A quorum shall be a majority of the members appointed to the committee, there being at least two members from each Town.

4. **Definitions** C. **Shelfish, Clams and Intertidal Shellfish Rerources**: When used in the context of this ordinance the words "shellfish", "clams", "hen clams", "Quohogs", "Razor clams or Atlantic Razor clams", and "intertidal shellfish resources" mean soft shell clams(*Mya arenaria*), hen clams(*Spisula solidissima*), Quohogs(*Mercenaria mercenaria*), Razor clams or atlantic razor clams(*Enisis directus*).

5. B. **Application Procedure**: 4) **Mandatory Conservation Time Requirements**: No Resident Commercial or Nonresident Commercial License shall be issued in the Town of Stonington [Deer Isle] until applicant has completed a minimum of Seven (7) hours of mandatory Conservation work; Three(3) of the seven hours must be in attendance of Shellfish Conservation Committee Meetings.

Mandatory Conservation work includes conservation work done on the flats

OR approved by the Deer Isle Stonington Shellfish Committee. Conservation Time requirements will be waived for all senior and junior license applicants. Applicants who have completed conservation time will maintain eligibility for a municipal license in accordance with DMR regulation Chapter 7.40(3).

**4. Other Business.**

**5. Next Meeting January 12,2022 at the Stonington town Hall.**

Shellfish Committee  
Minutes November 10, 2021

PRESENT; 6 Board members

ITEM 1; Minutes October 2021 Move to accept VOTE 6-0

ITEM 2; License fees Should they increase.

Moved to raise commercial resident by \$100 off island by \$ 150  
Raise residential to \$20 non residential to \$30 No second motion failed

Duncan went over her financial spreadsheet. Pointed out that between Deer Isle and Stonington the Shellfish committee has almost \$ 50,000  
Duncan wanted to know if there were any capitol projects in the future.  
She explained that last year and this year Deer Isle did not raise money from taxes for the Shellfish committee but voted to take money from the reserves  
Motioned Alvin to keep fees the same this year and address raising fees next year, second George Vote 5-0-1

ITEM 3: Budget

Deer Isle		Stonington
\$ 2,000	from taxes	\$ 500
18,000	from fees	16,000
00	interest income	100
7,000	from reserve	3,000
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400	advertising	650
00	misc	250
00	supplies	200
7,500	travel	5,000
19,000	wages	11,000
00	payroll taxes	1,800
00	workers comp	250

Moved Alvin second George to accept budget vote 6-0

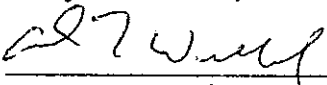
ITEM 4: Hannah from the State gave a talk on what the State representative does


ITEM 5: Moved and seconded to give Jennifer a stipend of 7 comp time hours for Keeping the records for the Shellfish committee Vote 6-0  
George will talk to Jim Fisher about a computer

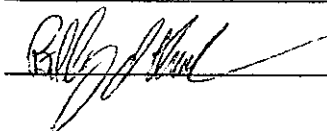
Next meeting January

Respectively submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan, Secretary

  
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Shellfish Committee  
Minutes December 8, 2021

PRESENT: 7 members of Board

PUBLIC: Selectman Rep Stonington, Town Manager Deer Isle, 1 Public

ITEM 1: Minutes of November 2021 approved




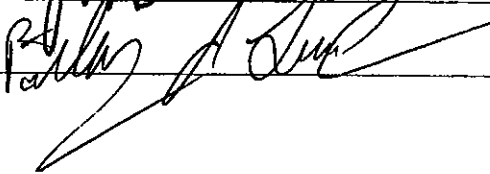
ITEM 2; Powell handed out Ordinance with changes for Deer Isle and Stonington.  
After discussion the changes were approved by all members. Change requests will be sent to the Selectmen of the two towns. DMR has approved already.

ITEM 3: Jim Fisher asked if the Shellfish committee would like him to apply for a grant for leach field failure study or a grant for improving productivity of flats. The second grant could be for nets or for coping with green crab infestation.  
After discussion it was approved to apply for a grant. Focus will be on the green crab problem which is increasing in our area. Fisher will work on project.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35PM

Respectively submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan  
Secretary

Shellfish Minutes  
October 13, 2021

Present: Six Board Members  
Public: Three public plus two Wardens


- Item 1: Minutes of September 2021 meeting read. Moved and seconded to accept minutes Vote 5-0-1
- Item 2: Deer Isle warden reported that she had issued six summons. She went to court for two summons and offenders paid the fines. She also reported that there is a parking issue in Mountainville by the Indian crossing. The owners do not want any parking on their property  
Stonington warden reported that flats have been quiet. He is still awaiting measurement tools from the State. Also reported that the September clean up of the shoreline was a success.
- Item 3: Powell reported that he wished to send a letter to the Selectmen of both towns regarding ordinance changes. He read the letter. There are three changes requested. Add razor clams and quahogs to the species list, a quorum will be at least two members from each town, and conservation time must include three hours of Shellfish meetings, each meeting being considered one hour.
- Item 4: Budget for 2022 was discussed. With the lack of commercial licenses this year there will be fewer off island licenses issued in 2022. Lack of commercial licenses from residents will also affect income if the current trend continues. Budget will be taken up again at the next meeting.
- Item 5: Conservation time is currently 1/2 hour for attendees. Moved and seconded to change this to one hour for attendees. Vote 6-0
- Item 6: Powell will advertise for an October 29<sup>th</sup> conservation advent mid afternoon to remove boxes and spread seed. Moved and seconded to have advent Vote 6-0
- Item 7: Discussion of keeping track of clammer conservation time. Powell thought Towns should do it, Duncan did not think that was going to work. Raylene has kept track in the past. Crystal (past shellfish chairman) has records, Raylene will get records. This spread sheet is important to maintain both past and future.

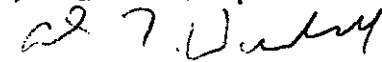
Meeting adjourned 7:30PM Next meeting November 10<sup>th</sup> in Stonington

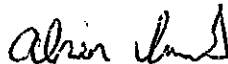
Respectively submitted

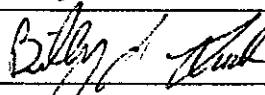
Evelyn Duncan, Secretary













## **Deer Isle-Stonington Shellfish Conservation Committee Meeting 9/8/21**

### **Minutes:**

**Item1:** The June minutes were read by Powell and signed by all members present.

### **Item 2 : Budget**

**Powell handed out budget information from each town as well as 2021 licenses sales numbers.**

**A discution of the gap between the licenses sales revenue and each towns budget in support of the Shellfish Ordinance. The gap is about \$8,000 in each town.**

**It was also noted that each town had some funds in reserve that can help fill the gap. We talked about how to close the gap; but no decision were made.**

**We talked about the decline in commercial clammers on the Island, and lack of younger clammers. No decisions were made and we will pick up the budget at the next meeting.**

### **Item 3 : Changes to Ordinance**

**Powell informed the committee that Gouldsboro when it amended its Ordinance and changed the tolerance for two inch clames in a lot from the State tolerance of 10% to 5% in Gouldsboro. Gouldsboro also limited the number clames over four inches, to 10% of lot.**

**Powell then asked if the committee wanted to make similar changes.**

**No motion was made and the issue was droped.**

**John Robbins suggested to the committee that as part of the mandatory Seven (7) hours of conservation work required for a commerical Shellfish license,**

shellfish harvesters must attend 3 Shellfish Conservation Committee meetings.

A motion was made to Amend the Ordinance as Robbins suggested and was unanimously adopted.

Powell said that he would talk to Hannah Annis about the 3 amendment we plan to make to the Ordinance, and put something together that we can send to the Towns.

Item 4: Other business

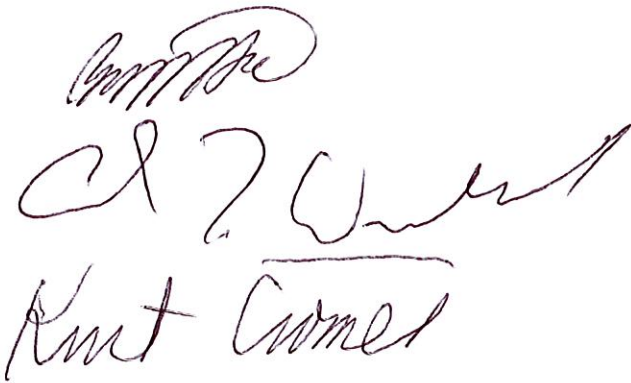
Jim Fisher announced that there will be a shoreline cleanup organized by the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries on September 23, 2021 from 2-4 P.M..

Meeting ajourned

Respectively submitted;

George Powell

chair



George Powell  
Kurt Comer

Shellfish Committee  
Minutes June 9, 2021

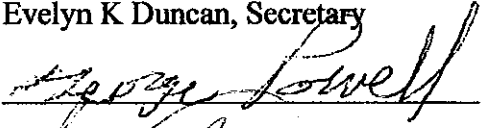
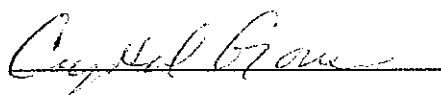




PRESENT: 3 Deer Isle, 3 Stonington members  
PUBLIC: 5 Public

- Item 1: Minutes May 6, 2021 approved 6-0
- Item 2: Powell reported that there is a Maine Shellfish group meeting this Friday. Powell is going and willing to offer a ride to anyone else interested. They will discuss new laws and what is happening in the industry
- Item 3: July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Does the Board want a presence and do they want to sell anything. Some tee shirts left. There was no interest in having a booth.
- Item 4: Duncan reported that the new clam warden for Stonington will be starting June 14<sup>th</sup>. Wardens name is Ed Billings
- Item 5: Discussion on Ordinance changes  
Options discussed  
Does the Board want to add one more off island residence using a purchase of a chance lottery to decide winner who would still pay for license. If want this draw should be a week after regular draw  
Does the Board want to change the quorum numbers? After discussion Board thought the best choice was to have up to 5 from each town but quorum would be at least 2 from each town present at meeting to be considered a quorum  
Does the Board want to add species? Board thought that Quohogs and Razor clams should be added  
Does Board want to change conservation time? Should more time be given for attending meeting? Board still thinking about this issue  
Does Board want to consider some kind of benefit to encourage clammers to join the Board. Stipends and conservation time considered. No decision

Meeting adjourned 7:30PM, next meeting September 8, 2021

Respectively submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan, Secretary



Shellfish Committee  
Minutes May 6, 2021

PRESENT: Deer Isle Members 4  
          Stonington Members 3  
PUBLIC: Hannah from State and 7 members public

Item 1: Read minutes of April 2021 Moved seconded all in favor

Item 2: Hannah reported on State's view of conservation projects.

Conservation is not required by DMR however it is required in multiple different towns. Three towns in Hancock and four in Washington require conservation. Seeding, surveys, and brushing are standard conservation projects. Most towns will give fee reduction or early license purchase if conservation is done. Some will charge a fee in lieu of doing conservation time. A lot are now doing multi specie management. Some are trapping and counting predators and some are doing science research projects.

As far as acceptance of town ordinances is concerned , future requirements are under review. A lot appears to be negative and the committee should be aware of what is happening at the State level especially any potential changes to the rules in Chapter 7 which is what we work by.

Maine Shellfish learning groups. It would be nice to have clammers and Committee members come to these meetings.

Item 3: The State will put out five boxes for long term study in Hatch Cove and Sunshine Causeway. The boxes are 1' x 2' with fine mesh  
Hannah reported that you need multi year reports. Last year had poor results but the year before were very good throughout the State. Location could be an issue or weather. Temperature data monitor are needed. Need to study green crab, etc infiltration. Need input from clammers also.  
If we put out boxes and want to winter over resulting product we would have to get an aquaculture lease as she can no longer issue licenses.

Powell moved that the Board host a conservation meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> to put out some of our boxes at 8AM. Meet at Deer Isle town hall. Second Crystal All in favor. Powell will advertise the event.

Item 4: Ordinance changes

Powell motioned if the Board wanted to set up a sub committee to go over the Ordinance and suggest changes to such items as adding additional species and permit requirements. This did not pass. Board decided that it would rather continue to meet through the summer and work together on the project.

Item 5: Board decided that it would like to change the date/time of the monthly meeting from the end of the month to the second Wednesday of each month at 6PM. All were in favor. Next meeting June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at Deer Isle town hall.

Item 6: The aquaculture lease request in Oceanville.  
The Harbor committee sent this request back to the Shellfish committee.  
No one was present to represent the lessee's.  
The Shellfish committee is not in favor of the lease.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan  
Secretary

*George Powell*  
*Kurt Coomes*  
*at T. Winkler*  
*[Signature]*

*Crystal Gow*  
*Billyd [Signature]*

Deer Isle Stonington  
Shellfish Committee Meeting Minutes 4-6-2021

Present: Three members from Deer Isle Three Members from Stonington

Public: Both Clam wardens plus 11 from public

Item 1: Duncan read the minutes of February 2020 and then the minutes from February 2021 There were no comments on the minutes

Item 2: The new clam warden from Stonington introduced himself

Item 3: Conservation events

All events meet at the Deer Isle town hall parking lot

April 19<sup>th</sup> 9AM to 1PM

Create access and parking. Clean flats of garbage and debris.

Location Ramos large metal building Oceanville Road, Stonington

April 21<sup>st</sup> 10:30AM to 2:30PM

Survey Pickerings Cove, Sunshine Road, Deer Isle

April 24<sup>th</sup> 1PM to 5PM

Clean garbage and debris from Fish Creek flats, Deer Isle

May ????

Potential fourth conservation event

Work with the State to install boxes at their designated locations for survey they intend to conduct. Time and action will depend on the State

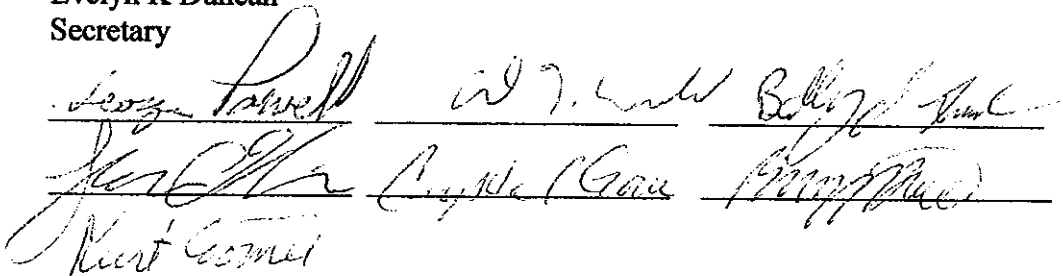
Item 4: Because the next regular meeting will co-inside with record low tides decision made to move the regular meeting to May 5<sup>th</sup> 6PM, Stonington Town Hall, second floor

Item 5: Discussion on what determines a quorum, need to change ordinances, what involved.

Meeting adjourned 7PM

Respectively submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan  
Secretary

  
The block contains three handwritten signatures, each written over a horizontal line. The signatures are cursive and appear to be: George Powell, [unclear], and [unclear].

Deer Isle Stonington Shellfish Committee  
c/o Town of Stonington  
P O Box 9  
Stonington, Maine 04681

March 25, 2021

SUBJECT: Oyster Farm Lease  
Inner harbor  
Stonington, Maine

A copy of the proposed oyster farm lease was brought to the Deer Isle Stonington Shellfish committee at its March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. The application was discussed and the Board would like you to consider the following comments:

- 1: Under the Other signatures required section  
The Shellfish committee feels that its signature is required as this is an area which is clamed and has mussel beds
- 2: Eelgrass: The application say none in area but this is false there is eelgrass growing here.
- 3: Although there is not a lot of lobstering in the area there is more than a minimal amount.
- 4: At low tide there is not 10' of water, in some areas there is none
- 5: Clam flats are located before (and partially in) and beyond the site. There is a narrow channel in the middle of the site that is used to access the inner flats by boat by the commercial clamers. The channel cannot be blocked.
- 6: There are two mussel flats, one on each side of the channel within the proposed site.

For all of the above reasons the Shellfish committee Board as well as the commercial clamers present at the meeting do not recommend approval of this site. Other areas could be looked at that are not active clam flats.

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George Powell  
Chairman of the Board

Shellfish Committee  
Minutes February 24, 2021

PRESENT: Three Board members Deer Isle, Three Board members Stonington  
PUBLIC: 14 members of the public including two clam wardens and Hannah  
from State of Maine

Item 1: Minutes of February 2020 Minutes tabled till next meeting

Item 2: Chairman wanted everyone to be aware of how important it is to have meetings with a quorum of Board members and participation from clamers in general. Without this it is possible that the State could void our Clam Ordinance which would mean any clammer from anywhere could clam the island flats.

Item 3: Clam wardens both reported that the flats have been very quiet so far this year.

Item 4: Election of officers

Chairman: George Powell nominated and seconded. There being no further nominations vote was requested. All in favor

Vice Chairman: Crystal Gove was nominated and seconded. There being no further nominations vote was requested. All in favor

Secretary: Evelyn Duncan was nominated and seconded. There being no further nominations vote was requested All in favor

Item 5: Mike Thalhauser from Coastal Fisheries PERC spoke on LD454 and its effects for the island. LD454 involves re-imburement to Towns. Letters in support can be sent

Item 6: Hannah (from the State) reported that the State would like to do a long term study. The boxes would be 1' x 2' and the State would indicate where they want them to be. They will install but we could also install as part of conservation. They will be studying anything that comes into the box. They would like to start this spring. George Powell moved Crystal Gove seconded to approve this plan. Vote All in favor.

Item 7: Conservation projects and times will be set next meeting which will be March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6PM

Item 8: Recommendations for Board members Stonington Ben Hardie, Kurt Ciomei, George Powell (all terms still active) Lucas Oliver, Allen Hutchinson, Tyler Robbins possible new. Board to send to Stonington Selectmen

Meeting adjourned at 6:15PM

Respectively submitted;

Evelyn K Duncan  
Secretary

*George Powell*  
*Crystal Gove*

*Ben Hardie*

*Billy*

*Clayton*