

Branford Shellfish Commission
Established 1987
Town of Branford, Connecticut
MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2025
Location: Community House, 46 Church Street, Branford, CT
Time: 5:00 PM

Page 1 of 3

1. Attendance: Tony Pulcinella, Marty Hallier, Dave DeBell, Don Hennessey and Dave Steinhardt.
2. The Meeting was called to Order at 5:00 PM by Tony Pulcinella.
3. The Minutes of January 14, 2025: On a motion by Marty Hallier, the Minutes were unanimously approved.
4. Review Dock Applications and Shellfish Bed Impact Projects – CL&P Project – includes the removal of 14 derelict wooden distribution poles and associated conductor, and hardware south of Route 1 (East Main Street) between Branford High School and Mill Plain Road in Branford. The project work is expected to take place between the late fall and winter of 2025-2026. The proposed work is temporary and limited to tidal marshes adjacent to the Branford River. Temporary matting will be used. No work is proposed within open water or waterways and no new infrastructure is currently proposed within this portion of Eversource's distribution line easement. After extensive discussion, it was unanimously agreed that the work will not adversely impact a shellfish area and the Chairman signed the LWRD License Application Pre-Submission Consultation Form.
5. Public Forum – Ben Kelsey addressed the Commission and informed them that Brendan Smith is winding down Thimble Island Ocean Farm LLC operations and transferring the leases to Greenwave, which will continue to promote seaweed farming. As existing leases, they can be transferred. On a motion from Marty Hallier, seconded by Dave Steinhardt, it was unanimously agreed to accept the document (attached).
6. Communications with Bills -Tyco invoice 175720, dated 12/30/24, \$345, Purchase Order 20251308 for the printing of 2025 Shellfish Permits. On a motion from Marty Hallier and seconded by Dave Steinhardt, it was unanimously approved for payment. Kelsey's Boatyard Invoice 2017, \$850 for the Winterization, shrinkwrap and transportation for storage of Shellfish boat. On a motion from Dave DeBell, seconded by Dave Steinhardt, it was unanimously approved for payment.
7. Permit Activity – To date, \$150 in Revenue was collected from the sale of 2025 Permits.
8. Budget Report – was presented to the Commissioners.
9. Enforcement – No actions.
10. Update on Lease Collections – Copies of checks acknowledged.

11. Old Business – None.
12. New Business – On a motion from Dave Steinhardt, seconded by Marty Hallier, it was unanimously agreed (after discussion and consultation of tide tables) to schedule Clam Restocking for May 17, 2025 with a rain date of May 18. Commissioners will meet on the dock at 11:00 am.
13. Adjournment – On a motion by Dave Steinhardt, seconded by Marty Hallier, the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted, Doreen Denhardt, Clerk

Accepted
4.8.25

Thimble Island Ocean Farm, LLC
42 East Pearl Street
New Haven, CT 06513

Branford Shellfish Commission
Branford Town Hall
1019 Main Street,
Branford, CT 06405

RE: Transfer of L540 from
Dear Shellfish Commissioners:

I, Brendan Smith DBA Thimble Island Oyster Co., LLC, am requesting a transfer of my lease for shellfish bed number L-540 and L-544. The shellfish grounds consist of a total of 19.3 acres, which are all located within the meridian and jurisdictional boundaries of the Town of Branford. Below are the coordinates for L-540 and L-544

NE point: L-540

Latitude 41°15'26.981" N Longitude 72°46'04.405"W

Latitude 41°15'14.592" N Longitude 72°45'57.070"W

Latitude 41°15'12.773" N Longitude 72°46'05.021"W

Latitude 41°15'24.494" N Longitude 72°46'11.60"W

NE point L-544

Latitude 41°15'28.657" N Longitude 72°45'52.753"W

Latitude 41°15'18.279" N Longitude 72°45'45.609"W

Latitude 41°15'14.592" N Longitude 72°45'57.070"W

Latitude 41°15'26.981" N Longitude 72°46'04.405"W

The new lessor will be GreenWave Organization Corp. of 315 Front Street New Haven CT 06513.

All activities at this site will remain identical to existing operations regarding the deployment, maintenance, upkeep and removal of gear and equipment related to the production and harvesting of sugar kelp (*Saccharina Latissima*) and other previously permitted species.

Sincerely,



Bren Smith
Thimble Island Ocean Farm, LLC