

## Meeting Minutes

CT Seafood Council Tuesday December 4, 2012 2 p.m.  
Ct Bureau of Aquaculture, Milford.

Present: Tessa Getch, Chad Simoneaux, Nancy Balcom, Mike Theiler, Larry Williams, DJ King, David Carey, and Barbara Gordon.

Co-Chairman Larry Williams called meeting to order at 2:20. Declared quorum present. Minutes and previous meeting of July 19, 2012 were reviewed.

Co-Chairs' Report - Mike Theiler attended Governor's Council of Agriculture. Goal is to have use of local products increase five hundred fold in the next five years.

Our branding of CT products is expensive but viable. Perhaps council could use Farmer's Cow model.

Mike Theiler met Matt Mckensie - new representative on the New England Council. Shared ideas on CT's fleet. Interested in protecting small boat fleet - basically sea scallops and monkfish. Previous member of N.E. Council was basically an environmentalist.

Small boat owners shouldn't have to compete with feds for licensing.

Co-Chair Larry Williams:

Re: Sustainability \_ worked with Ron Goldberg \_ perception from region to region differs.

Larry shared N.Y. Times editorial UE: Sustainability and the Shinnecock Bay Restoration Program. Discussed losses of eel grass, shellfish, and the need to do something to restore shellfish - more studies, more planning.

Larry said that part if the CT study is making a contribution. CT does have sustainable resource.

Bureau Director's Report - David Carey

Minimum standards will need to take place to separate the few who do scour from the much higher percentage of fisherman who do proper fishing.

Proper bottom cultivation is sustainable; just as sustainable as farming.

Related new video will be available on Bureau website. There is discrimination against bottom culture vs. cage culture. Director is seeking Army Corps of Engineers money for enhancement projects. Mike Theiler offered that towns need to be educated.

Status of Bureau

Director spoke at Governor's Office about proposals for coming year - One is the ability to assign 25 acres areas right away instead of going through a lengthy bidding process. If suggestion is approved by Governor's Office, will be put into proposed legislation form.

Larry Williams said sites are limited, but would provide opportunity without others usurping sites.

Need micro-biologist position in lab. Money is in the budget -

Director trying to obtain position . Has written 4 page justification for the Governor's Office.

Executive director, Barbara Gordon, will pursue.

Larry Williams said a backlog of work needs to be anticipated. May

miss window of holiday opportunity for sales at great loss to CT economy.

Advertisement for Executive Director position needs to take place once again - This is done annually.

Motion to advertise for ED Position made by Larry Williams; seconded by Mike Theiler. Approved.

Funding is already in place for this position via #228 act by the legislature using real estate conveyance tax. Payments from fund are provided quarterly; money remains in account if not spent.

Contract would be January 2013 to January 2014.  
Bureau director reported good press on Storm Sandy. Legislation pending to cover damage done by storm. Assessment very difficult - need to wait to do survey of damage. Jeff Long, from the office and Senator Richard Blumenthal is working on issue.

Mike Theiler pewed? discussion on marketing, promotion, and goals. David Carey spoke of need to get back on track. Council could write up request for marketing money from the Department of Agriculture. New Commissioner, Steve Revi would be very helpful in finding funding. Council needs to have a plan. Perhaps Farmers Markets could be a project. Mike Theiler suggested Council learn from others. One problem is that there is not enough products all of the time. Discussion followed re: methods and promotion. Mike suggested sending survey with membership notices - re: what are needs and requests. Note of interest; there will be legislation allowing locally grown chickens and turkeys to be sold in CT.

Labels would be available for our product to Council members. Discussion re: Website followed. Should be priority. Bureau Director will ask for more information from Department of Agriculture as to programming. Money from sale of insulated bags could be used for promotion.

No further business - meeting adjourned by motion, secured, approval at 4 p.m. Next meeting will take place in January 2013 at a date to be announced.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Gordon  
Executive Director