

Letters of
Support

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 7:43 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Perry Raso - Application # 2017-12-086

From: Kevin Ruth [<mailto:kevin.ruth@aol.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 5:42 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Perry Raso - Application # 2017-12-086

Dear Mr Dave Beutel,

I am writing to you to provide my full support of Perry Raso's application #2017-12-086, for Aquaculture Shellfishing. I have owned my home at [661B Succotash Road, Wakefield, RI](#) on Potters Pond for 14 years and I have visibly seen the benefit to the health of Potters Pond due in large part to the existing shellfishing leases. The area that this lease is proposed would not be impacted in my opinion. I have seen no active fishing in this area. I also feel it would not impact the recreational activities. I kayak and water ski frequently on the pond and I see that this lease would have no impact on the activities that I enjoy in that area of Potters Pond. I applaud the application and look forward to the delicious oysters, scallops and shellfish that it will produce. I also feel the economic benefits can only enhance and better those that will work the lease. My son would greatly benefit in learning from working the farm and I would encourage him to do so.

Thank you for your time. This application has my full support!

Kevin Ruth
kevin.ruth@aol.com

Chris Roebuck
81 Point Ave.
Wakefield RI 02879

Dave Beutel
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Rd
Wakefield RI 02879

Hi Dave,

I'm writing to you in support of Perry Raso's application for a new lease in Segar Cove, Potter's Pond.

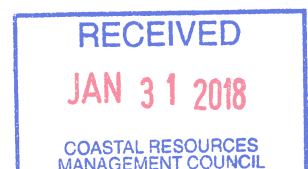
I am in support of more leases in our ponds and estuaries to support the increasing demand for seafood and especially the locally grown, farm to table concept which Mr. Raso seems to be the poster child for. More specifically however, the area that this lease encompasses appears to be in the ideal location for expansion of local aquaculture. In my 35+ years of experience as both a commercial and recreational fisherman on our local ponds, especially Pt. Judith and Potters, I have never seen any human activity in this particular area. I have participated in kayaking, water skiing, bay scalloping, quahogging, bass fishing and blue shell crabbing each to some degree over the last 35+ years and all in Potters Pond but never in the area applied for in the lease.

This area, in my opinion, would have the least impact of any area in the pond on human recreating activities and would be a great addition to our local aquaculture.

Thank you for supporting our local farms, seafood supply chain and economy.



Chris Roebuck



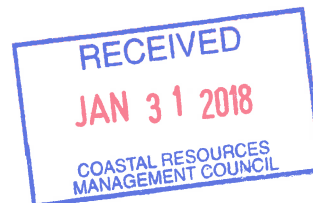
Mr. David Beutel
Coastal Resource Management Council
4808 Tower Hill Rd.
Wakefield, R.I. 02879

01/28/2018

Dear Mr. Beutel,
Our names are Richard and Judy Chappell and we have lived and enjoyed Potters Pond for more than sixty years. We are in favor of the proposed lease area that Perry Raso is asking for. That area is not used for shellfishing, crabbing, and very little boat traffic if any. We cannot think of a better area for this activity.

Thank you,
Richard W. Chappell
Judith P. Chappell
60G Chappell Rd.
Wakefield, R.I. 02879

Richard W. Chappell
Judith P. Chappell



Thaddeus Wahlberg
155 Gravelly Hill Rd
Wakefield RI
02879

1/29/18

Dave Beutel
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Rd
Wakefield RI
02879

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been recreationally fishing, shellfishing and duck hunting on Potter Pond for 20 years. I support the proposed project and feel it would be good for the health and wildlife of the pond. During my years on the pond I have never seen anyone fishing in that particular area of Segar Cove which make this area a good spot for a farm. Water skiers and tubers for the most part use the north area of the pond which many people refer to as "skiers cove", Segar Cove is also used by skiers but in my experience the north end of the pond is used more often. It seems that skiers would still have enough area to navigate in Segar Cove if they chose to ski or tube in Segar Cove instead of Skiers Cove.

Thank you,
Thaddeus Wahlberg



PRENTICE K. STOUT
15 DOCKRAY ROAD
WAKEFIELD, RI 02879-3917

January 29, 2018

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have read and understand the documentation authored by Perry Raso who is applying to the Coastal Resources Management Program, Section 300.1 for an Aquaculture license, #Aqua 00002017-09-018.

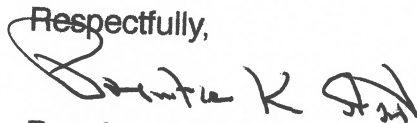
I have known Mr. Raso since his high school years and he has been and continues to be a dedicated member of the community. His professional shellfish aquaculture work has been undertaken with the utmost environmental care and has continued to be of the highest caliber. His restaurant, *The Oyster Bar*, has received accolades and has awoken both visitors to Pt. Judith Pond, and to those who call the Pond "home", to this ecological "treasure".

As a former member of the staff of the University of Rhode Island's Marine Advisory Service, I authored the documentary volume, *A Place of Quiet Waters, The History and Natural History of Rhode Island's Point Judith Pond and the Harbor of Refuge*. In addition I have created two documentary slide presentations dealing with the Pond and for the past forty-four years I have continued to teach the YMCA, Camp Fuller's *Sea Quest*, summer marine program on the Pond.

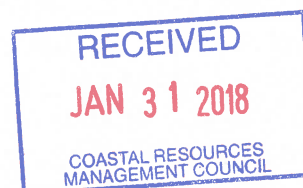
I have read Mr. Raso's proposal with care and fully believe that the project he wishes to undertake will be carried out with his usual professionalism and will, in no way be detrimental to the ecology of the Pond. In all my years on the Pond I have never seen anyone use that area for fishing. Further, this project will be a unique study area for years to come.

Mr. Raso has my fullest endorsement to undertake this project.

Respectfully,



Prentice K. Stout



Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Scallop Farm Application letter of reccomendation Perry Rasso
Attachments: Oyster Bar Rec.pdf

From: Frank Mazza [<mailto:pointviewmarina@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 3:24 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Scallop Farm Application letter of reccomendation Perry Rasso

Please find attached a letter of recommendation for Perry Rasso's application.

Frank Mazza
55 Potter Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

January 31, 2018

Coastal Resources Management Council
4808 Tower Hill Road # 116
Wakefield, RI 02879

Attn: Dave Beutel

Mr. Beutel:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Perry Rasso and Matunuck Oyster Bar regarding his aquaculture application for a scallop farm in Segar Cove. I have and currently reside on Potter's Pond for over fifty years. I grew up on Potter's learning how to handle a skiff, clam, fish, water ski, sail, etc., etc.

I have seen many changes over the years, most of them good, some bad, but in knowing Perry since he opened and how he has operated his oyster farm, and restaurant I can only believe that this change is a good thing.

Perry recognizes the value of a natural resource in a holistic manner, and understands that the environment is part of the equation, not just a by-product to produce something. If anyone could be trusted to manage this area in an environmentally responsible manner it would be him and his employees.

Another attribute that Perry has is being considerate of neighbors and this would certainly fall into that category, as the area he has applied for really has no impact to boat traffic, shell fishing, or any other water activity and is the least noticeable spot from any of the houses situated along the shores of the cove.

I hope this letter will help you make a good decision on this application and if you have any questions for me please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Mazza", with a long, sweeping underline.

Frank Mazza
201.376.8872
pointviewmarina@gmail.com

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 8:15 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Raso Expansion
Attachments: Raso-CRMC-letter-2018-1-30.pdf

From: Michael Rice [<mailto:mrice@uri.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2018 7:44 AM
To: Dave Beutel
Subject: Raso Expansion

David,
Please place the attached letter into the Raso file. Thanks

Michael A. Rice, Ph.D., Professor of Fisheries & Aquaculture
Dept of Fisheries, Animal & Veterinary Science, University of Rhode Island
126 Woodward Hall, 9 East Alumni Ave., Kingston, RI 02881
tel. [\(401\) 874-2943](tel:(401)874-2943) fax [\(401\) 874-7575](tel:(401)874-7575) email. rice@uri.edu
web. <http://web.uri.edu/favs/michael-a-rice/>

"Educational exchange can turn nations into people, contributing as no other form of communication can to the humanizing of international relations." ----Senator J. William Fulbright, 1983

30 January 2018

Dear Members of the Coastal Resources Management Council:

I have reviewed the File 2017-12-086, an application by Perry Raso of the Matunuck Oyster farm to expand his farm operations into a 2.92 lease plot area in the Seger Cove area of Potter Pond. The location is in a protected area of the cove away from SAV beds and areas of heavy recreational boat use. The area appears to be located in an area that would not have heavy use by recreational fishers attempting to assess the spot from shore because of private property and road access to the adjacent land area. The cove receives some runoff from adjacent terrestrial farms nearby, so the addition of filter feeding oysters may aid in harvesting extra phytoplankton that might be stimulated by the farming activities. Numerous studies of biodeposition from oysters on several Rhode Island oyster farms in the past have shown that *at the culture densities of oysters on farms typical for Rhode Island*, not enough biodeposits are generated to change benthic communities substantially toward anaerobic muds. However, some anecdotal information suggests that greater light penetration to pond bottoms due to the increased presence of oysters in the pond over time has been a factor in increasing sea grass habitat which are well known to be a nursery grounds for a number of recreational and commercially important marine species, as well as the forage species to support them.

After you have reviewed the evidence, I hope that you would be approving Mr. Raso's oyster farm expansion into Seger Cove. The project is good for the community in many ways and I support approval most whole heartedly.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Rice, Ph.D.
Professor of Fisheries and Aquaculture

From: Robert Cavanagh <cavanaghbob@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2018 6:31 PM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Replacement letter - Support for File Number 2017-12-086 Perry Raso Segar Cove

Please replace my letter written on January 26, 2018 with this version. Thank you.
Robert Cavanagh

>
> CRMC,
>
> I am in full support of Perry Raso's application for 3 acres of aquaculture in Segar Cove/Potter Pond in South Kingstown as long as it does not inhibit the use of the area for recreational activities which I believe it will not. I have lived year round on Potter Pond for almost thirty years and have used the pond recreationally for over 65 years. From my observations, Perry Raso's request would help to continue to improve the water quality as has been the case with his present operation across from Sycamore Cove. There is a significant run off of nitrogen and other chemicals from fertilizers and animal waste in the pond. Aquaculture helps minimize the impact. I believe everything possible (such as this request) should be done to improve the water quality of the pond.

> There are other activities that have been ill conceived and permitted that have had a negative impact on the pond. This does not believe this to be one of them. Close to the shore the proposed area is approximately in six feet of water with a muddy bottom that is void of eel grass. It is no longer an ideal habitat for natural scallops. I personally hope that Perry Raso's request may even help restore the scallops in the overall pond. That would be a welcome benefit to see a resurgence of the pond scallops. From my experience on the pond it would not interfere with fishing or boating activities since it is six feet deep and close to shore. A balance in the use of Potter Pond needs to be determined by the experts. I trust that your staff will strike that balance with the interest of the public, Perry Raso and the Pond in mind.

>
> Respectfully,
>
> Robert S Cavanagh
> 50 Peninsula Rd
> Wakefield, RI 02879
>
>
>
> Sent from my iPad

cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

From: Robert Cavanagh <cavanaghbob@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 11:26 AM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Support for File Number 2017-12-086 Perry Raso Segar Cove

CRMC,

I am in full support of Perry Raso's application for 3 acres of aquaculture in Segar Cove/Potter Pond in South Kingstown as long as it does not inhibit the use of the area for recreational activities. I have lived year round on Potter Pond for almost thirty years and have used the pond recreationally for over 65 years. Perry Raso's request would help to continue to improve the water quality as has been the case with his present operation across from Sycamore Cove. There are other activities that have been ill conceived and permitted that have had a negative impact on the pond. If approved while protecting the recreational use, I would not see this as one of them. A balance in the use of Potter Pond needs to be determined by the experts. I trust that your staff will strike that balance with both the interest of the public and Perry Raso in mind.

Respectfully,

Robert S Cavanagh
50 Peninsula Rd
Wakefield, RI 02879

Sent from my iPad

Brittany Spurlock

From: cstaff1 <cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Brittany; Lisa Turner; Jeff Willis; David Beutel
Subject: FW: Replacement letter - Support for File Number 2017-12-086 Perry Raso Segar Cove

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Cavanagh [<mailto:cavanaghbob@aol.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 10:48 AM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Re: Replacement letter - Support for File Number 2017-12-086 Perry Raso Segar Cove

Hi Lisa,
My letter was not a letter of objection!
Bob Cavanagh

Sent from my iPad

> On Jan 29, 2018, at 9:25 AM, <cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov> <cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

>

> We are in receipt of your objection.

>

>

> Lisa A. Turner
> Office Manager
> Coastal Resources Management Council
> O S Government Center
> 4808 Tower Hill Road, Rm 116
> Wakefield, RI 02879
> (401)783-3370

>

> P This email is sent on 100% Unused Paper Help promote Green Business
> practices by not printing this email

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Robert Cavanagh [<mailto:cavanaghbob@aol.com>]
> Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2018 6:31 PM
> To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
> Subject: Replacement letter - Support for File Number 2017-12-086
> Perry Raso Segar Cove

>

> Please replace my letter written on January 26, 2018 with this version. Thank you.
> Robert Cavanagh

>

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>> CRMC,

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have lived year round on Potter Pond for almost thirty years and have used the pond recreationally for over 65 years. From my observations, Perry Raso's request would help to continue to improve the water quality as has been the case with his present operation across from Sycamore Cove. There is a significant run off of nitrogen and other chemicals from fertilizers and animal waste in the pond. Aquaculture helps minimize the impact. I believe everything possible (such as this request) should be done to improve the water quality of the pond.

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>>
>> Respectfully,
>>
>> Robert S Cavanagh
>> 50 Peninsula Rd
>> Wakefield, RI 02879

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>> Sent from my iPad

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> This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
> <http://www.avg.com>
>

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 2:00 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Raso Aquaculture License

From: Joslin Leasca [<mailto:joslinleasca@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 1:33 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Raso Aquaculture License

Dear Mr. Beutel:

I am writing to express my support for Perry Raso/Matunuck Oyster Bar's application for expansion of aquaculture in Segar Cove.

There is every reason to support Perry Raso's newest application for expansion of aquaculture in Segar Cove. The twenty first century has given us the opportunities to reverse the unsustainable practices of over 300 years of abuse to our waterways. Increased waste water management, stronger legislation, increased penalties for pollution, and decreased waterfront industries are some of those measures meant to protect our oceans, bays, and ponds.

Oysters eat by filtering water and removing phytoplankton which tends to balance algae populations. Large algal blooms greatly deplete oxygen levels for all organisms in a marine ecosystem. Along with algae filtration, oysters filter inert and polluting sediments and can filter up to 25 gallons of water a day. Oysters clean our waterways and increase biodiversity.

The suggestion that Raso's application timing is somehow underhanded is simply insulting. As part of good planning for new oyster beds, this would be the exact, and quite obvious, time to apply for an expanded lease.

As far as homeowners of rental properties along the pond, who should have controlling use and ability to affect the quality of our waterways? Out of towners with no vested interest in our community except receipt of rent or a local business owner, raised and educated in South Kingstown, who has built a very large business, increased tourism in our town, provides employment for hundreds of year round South County residents, and whose actual business activity cleans our waterways?

I fully support expansion of Raso's oyster beds and would look forward to reduced use and pollution by "out of state homeowners".

I am on the waterways everyday spring, summer, and fall and I have both witnessed the abuse of our beautiful waterways by visitors and cleaned up after some of those summer visitors.

I prefer to see our business leaders engaging in business expansion that provides so many economic and ecologic benefits to our waterways and for our residents who live, work, play, and go to school in South Kingstown.

I fully support his application for expansion and hope you will look favorably on this application.

Sincerely yours,

Joslin B Leasca
(401) 742 6967
258 Kettle Pond Drive
Wakefield, RI 02879

