



Town of Barnstable

Shellfish Committee

1189 Phinneys Lane, Centerville MA 02632



SHELLFISH COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATE: October 11, 2023 TIME: 6:30-8:30 PM

Shellfish Committee Members present: Stuart Rapp, Al Surprenant, Patricia Farinha, Jake Angelo, Robert Lancaster, Gloriann Hurwitz, Paul Hendricks, Bill Cherepon, Douglas Crook

Shellfish Committee Members absent:

General Public present: Aaron Hemmila, Les Hemmila, Connor Rogan, Ronnie Mansbach, Paul Hamblin, Jill Nawoichik, Tyler Hagenstein, Jen Bunnell, Matt Bunnell, Mark Begley, Wayne Hayes, David Ryan, Richard Haskell, Jack Bacigalupo, Jan Martin, Greg Dardia, Jared Hemmila, Corey Hendricks

Town Council Liaison absent: Paul Cusack

Town Staff present: Amy Croteau, Senior Natural Resource Officer/Shellfish Constable; Alicia Lauzon, MEA Administrative Assistant

Stuart Rapp called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, as October 11, 2023 meeting of the Shellfish Committee. Stuart read a notice at the beginning of the meeting:

NOTICE OF RECORDING "Please note that tonight's meeting is recorded and broadcast on the Town of Barnstable's Government Access Channel and, in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, s. 20, I must inquire whether anyone is taping this meeting and to please make their presence known."

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. Approve Meeting Minutes:** Robert Lancaster moved to approve the August 9, 2023 meeting minutes and Patricia Farinha seconded. There was a unanimous vote in favor of approving minutes as written.
- 2. Chairman's Comments:** Chairman Stuart Rapp announced that next month the Shellfish Committee meetings may go back to meeting in the Selectman's Conference room at the town hall, 367 Main St.
- 3. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:**

Constable Croteau stated there is usually a small increase in sales during October and November due to scallop and oyster season. Shellfish permit numbers are as follows for September and October respectfully.

Permit Type	2023 YTD
Resident	1371
Non-Resident	470
Resident Senior	1010
NR Veteran	43
NR Veteran Senior	80
Seasonal	71
YTD Totals:	3,045
YTD Income:	\$146,726

Permit Type	2023 YTD
Resident	1397
Non-Resident	486
Resident Senior	1019
NR Veteran	48
NR Veteran Senior	81
Seasonal	71
YTD Totals:	3,102
YTD Income:	\$150,582

1. Shellfish Growing Area Updates

Oyster season begins November 1. Bay St tested clean for an on time opening. Bay St will continue to have a limit of one peck per week as the oysters continue to get cleaned out from that area and there is also no longer a commercial closure at Bay St while continuing to work through seed. All other locations will still be ½ peck per week. Scallop season opened October 1st. There are a lot of undersized scallops at Kalmus Beach in the eel grass, so everyone has been urged to check legal size carefully.

2. Small Budget for Uglies

The Natural Resource Division has a budget of \$5,000 for uglies and can offer \$0.50 apiece for a total of 10,000 pieces. Any growers interested reach out to Shellfish Biologist Liz Lewis, and it will be split amongst all interested.

4. New Business:

1. Dry Dredging Discussion – led by Jake Angelo

Jacob Angelo stated the Mills River has not been dredged in three years. Before dredging, many quahogs were seen infected with sponge, and no razor clams were seen. Post-dredging, there were baby razor clams, more quahog seed, and the meat of the quahogs looked much healthier. He would like to continue to go into conditionally approved areas for dredging and thinks it could be beneficial. Something Natural Resource Division is interested in trying conditionally.

2. Floating Gear in Barnstable Harbor Aquaculture Zone – initial discussion

Constable Croteau stated this gear would be one floating pen per 2 acre field for staging orders. Each grower interested would need their own permit through Army Corp because it is a specific use of gear but would likely be held down like a mooring. Proper signage would be needed around the site. This will need to go through the Waterways Committee and Harbormaster

Division as well to see exactly what would be required. Natural Resource Division has no opposition.

3. 2024 Shellfish Committee Meeting Schedule:

- Meetings Scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the Month
- January - March meetings 6:00pm - 8:00pm
- April - October meetings 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- November - December 6:00pm - 8:00pm

January 10, 2024, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
February 14, 2024, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
March 13, 2024, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
April 10, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
May 8, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
June 12, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

July 10, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
August 14, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
September 11, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
October 9, 2024, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
November 13, 2024, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
December 11, 2024, 6:00pm – 8:00p

Patricia moved to accept the 2024 Shellfish Committee meeting schedule as written and Robert seconded. All in favor by unanimous vote.

Chairman Rapp noted that the location for the meetings will be going back to the Selectmens Conference Room at the Town Hall, at 367 Main St.

5. Upcoming (and Old) Renewal & Transfer Hearings:

1. Hearing for the renewal of aquaculture licensed site sg009 (2 parcels) in Cotuit Bay for Conrad Geysler, 64 Old Shore Rd, Cotuit, MA 02635 for a period of 10 years. Public hearing 09/14/2023 at 1:00PM via Zoom

No objections from the Committee or Natural Resource Division.

2. Hearing for the renewal of aquaculture licensed sites ng055 and ng057 in Barnstable Harbor for Thomas Wood, 72 Dunaskin Rd, Centerville, MA 02632 for a period of 10 years. Public hearing 09/14/2023 at 1:30PM via Zoom

No objections from the Committee or Natural Resource Division.

3. Hearing for the renewal of aquaculture licensed site sg011 in West Bay for Les Hemmila, 98 Governor's Way, Barnstable, MA 02630 for a period of 10 years. Public hearing 10/12/2023 at 10:30 AM via Zoom

Everything is up to date. Robert moved to recommend the renewal of site sg011 and Patricia seconded. All in favor by unanimous vote.

6. Upcoming (and old) Proposed Coastal Projects: None

7. Old Business:

1. Status of the repair of Scudder Lane Town Landing

There was supposed to be a meeting in the spring and another meeting is yet to be scheduled for the fall.

2. Proposed Aquaculture Regulation Change to Allow Aquaculture Licenses to be Issued Directly to a Corporation- Vote

Chairman Rapp opened the floor for discussion from the public. Discussion followed with those who were in favor mainly being for continuity and ease of doing yearly paperwork, as well as keeping the business within the family, and those who were not in favor mainly being because an LLC could continue indefinitely and make the waitlist completely irrelevant. Bob made a motion to vote for the proposed changes and Patricia seconded. Discussion followed among Committee members. Stuart, not in favor. Paul, not in favor, can sell to anyone. Bob made a motion to withdraw his earlier motion and Patricia seconded. Chairman Rapp suggested the public craft together regulations to bring before the town council. All in favor of not voting.

3. Continued Discussion- possible changes to aquaculture regulations:
acreage limitation licensed to an individual increase, experience and/or education requirements for new aquaculture license holders, untimely death of an aquaculture license holder, annual acreage fees for aquaculture license holders, potential changes to annual reports and potential changes to minimum production values.

Chairman Rapp suggesting holding off on continued discussion to include with discussion of the proposed aquaculture change allowing Aquaculture Licenses to be issued Directly to a Corporation.

8. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: None

The Shellfish Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion made by Robert and seconded by Al at 7:51 PM to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Alicia Lauzon – MEA administrative assistant