



Town of Barnstable

Shellfish Committee

1189 Phinneys Lane, Centerville MA 02632

SHELLFISH COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

DATE: May 14, 2025

TIME: 6:30-8:30 PM

Shellfish Committee Members present: Douglas Crook, Patricia Farinha, Bill Cherepon, Paul Hendricks, Jacob Angelo

Shellfish Committee Members absent: Stuart Rapp, Robert Lancaster, Gloriann Hurwitz, Timothy Hammel

General Public present: Jill Nawoichik, Jose Pichardo, Bruce Blackmarr, Zennon Mierzwa

Town Council Liaison absent: Gordon Starr

Town Staff present: Amy Croteau, Shellfish Constable; Alicia Lauzon, MEA Office Manager; Nina Coleman, Director of Natural Resource

Douglas Crook called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, as May 14, 2025 meeting of the Shellfish Committee. Chairman Crook 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: March 12, 2025 minutes

Paul motioned to approve the March 12, 2025 meeting minutes and Bill seconded. There was a unanimous vote in favor of approving minutes as written.

2. Chairman's Comments: None

3. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:

1. Shellfish Growing Area Updates

As of May 1st, Marstons Mills River, Pirates Cove, North Bay, and East Bay are closed. The razor clam closure in Barnstable Harbor has been lifted. Oysters are planning to be planted on the bottom of the shellfish propagation area in Cotuit Bay this upcoming season.

2. Monthly Propagation Report – April and May

Constable Croteau stated that two seasonal shellfish employees started, one returning and one new. A presentation on quahogs was given at the Adult Community Center, as well as some more classes were taught to 5th graders and dissection classes were set up to teach about shellfish. 700 bags have been made for the remote sets to fill and deliver to the hatchery in June. 4.5 million quahogs are being purchased at various sizes, 1 million oysters purchased as singles, 700 bags of remote set, and 200,000 scallops are being purchased at 2 mm. Also, the mooring area closure at Bridge Street is no longer in effect.

3. Clamming Classes Announcements

There are multiple clamming classes offered to everyone, 2 clamming kids classes in June, June 28th and June 29th, and 4 learn to razor clam classes.

4. Centerville River Relay Reminders

5. 2025 Vibrio Season

A reminder to growers that 2025 vibrio starts on May 19th and the vibrio logbooks need to be picked up.

4. New Business:

1. Shellfish Gift Account Discussion

Director Nina Coleman proposed creating a gift account for Shellfish that would be separate from the current revolving account. The gift account would be set up for donations to prevent having to individually go before Town Council every time someone would like to donate to the shellfish program. It would be used for anything propagation or education based. Jake motioned to approve Director Coleman's proposal for a gift account and Paul seconded. All in favor.

2. Behavioral Expectations Regulation Discussion §407-3, §407-15

Constable Croteau proposed a change to regulations §407-3 and §407-15 for inappropriate behavior towards other public and staff members. This regulation would be adding for both recreation and commercial permits

"Expectation of Behavior – Abusive, inappropriate or aggressive behavior toward other shellfishers and/or Natural Resource staff will result in the violator's catch being confiscated and the violator's shellfishing privileges being suspended for a period of no less than one shellfishing week. If

continued violations under this condition apply, the violator's shellfish permit may be further suspended or revoked. Any person who is issued a suspension or revocation notice will be provided the opportunity for a hearing with the Director of Marine Environmental Affairs Department pursuant to §407-71 of these regulations."

There was discussion on the definition of inappropriate in the regulation and if it could be more clearly defined.

3. SNAP Eligible Shellfish Permits Discussion §407-2, §407-3

Constable Croteau proposed offering shellfish permits for free to residents who are eligible for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits and may be suffering food insecurities and not be able to afford the gear or permit. This would add to their food benefits, allowing them to shellfish and provide fresh food for themselves and their families. Any individual applying for this permit would have to show their SNAP eligibility each year, similar to Resident permits. Discussion followed, including concerns of people taking advantage of the permit and not following the regulations. §407-2 would be the definition of what SNAP is and §407-3 would be the permit itself. Paul motioned to approve the regulation changes and Bill seconded. All in favor.

5. Upcoming (and Old) Renewal & Transfer Hearings: None

6. Upcoming (and old) Proposed Coastal Projects:

1. Applicant: Zennon L. Mierzwa

Project Location: 251 Green Dunes Drive, Hyannisport, MA 02647 (map 245, parcel 033 lot 65)

Representative: Jose Pichardo, Green Seal Environmental LLC

Proposed Project: Construction of a pier with floating dock including a 25' long by 4' wide boardwalk, 55' long elevated pier and a 200 square foot floating dock

Conservation Hearing: 04/01/2025 6:30PM via Zoom

<https://townofbarnstable-us.zoom.us/j/84916348982> Public

Representative Jose Pichardo stated the area is not suitable for shellfish. The project is for use of a motorized vessel in compliance with the conservation guidelines. There was no opposition from the Natural Resource division because that area is still a prohibited area as of now. Jake motioned to approve, and Bill seconded. All in favor

2. Applicant: Griffin Beaudoin, PE, Town of Barnstable DPW

Project Location: various locations throughout the Town of Barnstable

Representative: James Hill, Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC

Proposed Project: The project seeks to obtain a 10-year comprehensive permit for dredging 19 navigation channels and basins with beneficial reuse of the material to renourish 9 eroded shoreline locations. Dredging will cover ±98 acres in Barnstable Harbor/Sandy Neck, Centerville Harbor, Three Bays, and Prince Cove, restoring ±39 acres of shoreline areas over a 10-year period throughout the Town

Constable Croteau stated they met with DPW to discuss the fact that the 10-year comprehensive plan has been approved, but each project will still have to have the money approved on an individual basis. Therefore, Constable Croteau requested at least 18 months' notice to be able to put in their own request for the shellfish removal. The committee would like DPW to present each project as it comes up.

3. Applicant: Jamie N. Cody, Trustee: Centerville Qualified Personal Residence Trust
Project Location: 90 Short Beach Rd, Centerville, MA 02632
Representative: John O'Dea, Sullivan Engineering & Consulting, Inc.
Proposed Project: To replace existing timber bulkhead and stone revetment with new vinyl bulkhead
Conservation Hearing: 04/29/2025 6:30PM via Zoom

This project went to the Conservation Commission with the proposal of replacing the existing bulkhead with a vinyl one. It is in a shellfish prohibited area, and no opposition from Natural Resource.

7. Special Presentations: None

8. Old Business:

1. Dredging and Safety Issues - continued discussion from March

There was comment that the public would like to see the effects over time of the dredging, such as how long it would take the environment to recover.

9. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

Constable Croteau stated there is a meeting about Scudder Lane on Friday that she was invited to.

The Shellfish Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion made by Bill and seconded by Patricia at 7:29 PM to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Alicia Lauzon – MEA Office Manager