



Town of Barnstable
Marine and Environmental Affairs Department
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SHELLFISH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
DATE: June 8, 2022
TIME: 6:31 PM to 7:37PM.

Shellfish Committee Members present: Stuart Rapp, Robert Lancaster, Tyler Hagenstein, Jacob Angelo, Doug Crook, Patricia Farinha, Al Surprenant, Bill Cherepon

Shellfish Committee Members absent: None.

General Public present: None.

Town Council Liaison: Kristine Clark

Town Staff present: Amy Croteau, Senior Natural Resource Officer/Shellfish Constable, Brian Taylor Barnstable Harbormaster, Tyler Ranauro, Office Manager

Stuart Rapp called the meeting to order on June 8, 2022 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

Stuart Rapp read a notice at the beginning of the meeting:

NOTICE OF RECORDING "Please note that tonight's meeting is recorded and broadcast on Channel 18 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."

I. Meeting Minutes:

1. Meetings minutes of May 11, 2022.

A motion was made by Lancaster and seconded by Hagenstein; all in favor by unanimous roll call vote.

II. Chairman's Comments:

Mr. Rapp requested the orientation of the sign at Little River landing be adjusted. Constable Croteau agreed.

III. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:

1. Constable Croteau states effective June 15th; there will be a new reclassification by Division Marine Fisheries in Three Bays, Cotuit. The closure boundary line will be extended at stations 11 and 5 due to failing water quality tests. This will change the relay area and what can be planted moving forward.
2. Constable Croteau states the DMF established spawning herring migration is nearing the end. Low numbers across the State compared to previous years.
3. Numbers for the Town's recreational shellfish permit sales are continuing to increase, showing strong interest in the Town's program.

IV. New Business:

1. Constable Croteau presents a rough draft of a new map of Barnstable Harbor with an adjusted line of the Closed Commercial Shellfish Zone. The adjusted map has a line drawn from the recreational way to water of Scudder Ln, straight to Huckins Neck (previous map has crooked boundary line). Mr. Angelo emphasizes the importance of the proposed boundary, as the current markings are difficult to decipher as farmers. He continues to state that during the Sept 15-Dec 15 time period, all other shellfish areas in Barnstable Harbor are closed, which focuses more on recreational, and hinders commercial farming. Mr. Hagenstein agrees, and Constable Croteau states the new line would make Huckins Island proper still closed to commercial farmers, but the rest of the area previously off limits would be available. Mr. Hagenstein believes this favors commercial and grant holder's interest. Mr. Hagenstein also adds commercial farmers pose no threat to the recreational harvest due to lack of volume.

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

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

VII. Old Business:

1. Continued discussion of the possible use of part of 110 Freezer Rd, Barnstable by licensed grant holders in Barnstable Harbor for the storage of gear during the time of December 15th through April 1st with guest Harbormaster Brian Taylor.

Mr. Hagenstein states the proposed use of the Freezer Rd area serve as a working waterfront for grant holders and farmers. It would generate public interest for the Town, and emphasize the trade. The plan is to section off the parking lot for storage of gear for a conditional fee. He continues to state the extra storage enables one to gather all of the gear in a shorter period of time to avoid issues with leaving gear in the Harbor during weather and tide changes. This would result in a cleaner Harbor and will be a visually appealing storage area.

Mr. Angelo asks Harbormaster Taylor logistically, how much space would the floating docks and slips take up in the lot. Mr. Taylor replies he is not interested in stacking the docks. In the past the stacking hinders the Department from being able to repair the docks during the off season. At this moment, many floating piers need significant work in the

offseason. Mr. Angelo proposes to consolidate the docks in one open area which would provide space for the farmers gear. Mr. Rapp asks how much space each farmer/aquaculturist would need. Mr. Crook suggests limited individual spots, shared amongst multiple people. He continues to state this would be great for people starting up and will help the fishing community.

Once given an area, the Shellfish Committee could agree on a subsidized plot outline. Mr. Angelo emphasizes the importance of this interim area to help farmers off load gear during weather emergencies, as well as storage for new aquacultures and farmers in the Town. He continues to state this plan would help accommodate an industry that does not have enough infrastructures. Mr. Angelo suggests a lottery system for these spots; Mr. Surprenant suggests a bid system.

Mr. Taylor asks for some specifics about this proposal, Mr. Hagenstein replies with rough estimates of 10 + people interested, 20x40 plot outline, and Dec 15- April 1st duration time. Mr. Taylor states that for a plan to move forward there would be a user agreement between the Town and applicant that would cover the Town's liability. Mr. Taylor states he will take this discussion to the Harbormaster Department, Asset Management as well as Waterways Committee.

8. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: None.

The list of matters, are those reasonably anticipated by the president/chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. It is possible that if it so votes, the committee may go into executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tyler Ranauro, MEA Office Manager