



# Town of Barnstable

## Shellfish Committee

1189 Phinneys Lane, Centerville MA 02632

**SHELLFISH COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
DATE: October 9, 2024  
TIME: 6:30-8:30 PM**

**Shellfish Committee Members present:** Douglas Crook, Patricia Farinha, Gloriann Hurwitz, Robert Lancaster, Bill Cherepon, Stuart Rapp

**Shellfish Committee Members absent:** Paul Hendricks, Jacob Angelo

**General Public present:** Kris Clark, Jen Bunnell, Mark Begley, Tyler Hagenstein

**Town Council Liaison absent:** Gordon Starr

**Town Staff present:** Amy Croteau, Shellfish Constable; Alicia Lauzon, MEA Administrative Assistant

Douglas Crook called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM, as October 9, 2024 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:** September 11, 2024 minutes

**Patricia moved to approve the September 11, 2024 meeting minutes and Bob seconded. There was a unanimous vote in favor of approving minutes as written.**

**Councilwoman Clark recognized Stuart Rapp for his previous position of Chairman of the Shellfish Committee for 33 years. Stuart was the first Chairman for the Committee.**

**2. Chairman's Comments:** None

**3. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:**

**Director Nina Coleman stated the Shellfish Propagation team is currently hiring two technicians from the Revolving Shellfish Account; one year-round grade 7 and one grade 6 for 9 months of the year.**

Director Coleman would like to change this to two year-round grade 7 positions. Not only would this benefit the Shellfish Program, but she would like to use this to start going into schools in the wintertime for educational purposes and getting younger people more interested in nature and shellfish. Discussion followed including questions of what ages, to which Director Coleman responded she would like to start with kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and move to all ages from there. Suggestions of a “lending library” of tools be set up as well as possibly a Shellfish permit for families to try out Shellfishing were mentioned. Patricia motioned to support having two full time grade 7 Shellfish Technician positions and Gloriann seconded. All in favor.

**1. Monthly Propagation Report**

Constable Croteau stated oyster season begins on November 6<sup>th</sup>. There is dermo in all of the 3 Bays area, so there will be a limit of one peck for all of the South Side. Harvest limit will remain half a peck at Scudder Lane and all of the North Side. If half a peck is harvested from the North Side, an additional half a peck may be harvested from the South Side but no more than a full peck may be harvested all together in a week.

**2. Dry Dragging Management Plan for 2024-25 Winter**

Dry dragging will not be allowed in Aquacultural sites, recreational only shellfish areas, or relay areas. Constable Croteau stated she is still working with GIS for official maps. Dragging will not be allowed in Cotuit Bay where there are a lot of relay areas and aquaculture sites and will also be prohibited around Oregon Beach where there are patches of eel grass. There is not currently a special license to drag, and it will stay seasonal. As of right now there are no formal regulations for dry dragging.

**3. Growing Area Updates**

As of November 1<sup>st</sup> North Bay, Lewis Bay, Hyannisport, Mill Creek, and the conditionally approved area of Shoestring Bay will all be opening pending water quality.

**4. Rainfall Closures Information – why and when they happen, how we re-open, notification strategies**

If the Town of Barnstable receives 4 or more inches of rainfall within a 24 hour period, they must close shellfishing. The Department of Marine Fisheries (DMF) must sample the water quality before it can be reopened. If an area fails the water quality testing, they must test again. A Robocall goes out to growers and wild harvesters, and a mass email goes out to all recreational shellfish holders to notify everyone of the closure, and the same resources are used to notify when shellfishing has been reopened. The testing to reopen must be taken from “worst case scenario” areas in order to be cleared to open.

**4. New Business: None**

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

1. Hearing for the transfer of aquaculture licensed site ng013, from Stephen Bunnell, 33 Evergreen Drive, Marstons Mills, MA 02648 to Matthew Bunnell, 896 Main St (Rt 6A), West Barnstable, MA 02668 and issuance of a new aquaculture license to Matthew Bunnell for a period of 5 years. Public hearing 10/24/2024 at 9:00AM via Zoom.

**Jen Bunnell presented the transfer from Stephen Bunnell to Matt Bunnell. Now that the regulations allow for a permit holder to have 4 acres, Stephen Bunnell wishes to transfer his 2 acres to Matt Bunnell to consolidate. They harvest primarily oysters, soft shell clams and quahogs. Natural Resource Division has no opposition. Bob motioned to recommend approval for the transfer and Patricia seconded.**

**6. Upcoming (and old) Proposed Coastal Projects:**

1. Applicant: Jason Stone, Jason Stone Trust  
Project Location: 183 Bay Shore Rd, Hyannis, MA 02601 (map 325 parcel 180)  
Representative: Roy Okurowski, WRS Engineering LLC  
Proposed Project: Proposed replacement of boat life and ramp and float and dredging  
Conservation Hearing Date: October 29, 2024 6:30PM via Zoom

**Constable Croteau stated that there are a couple things the Natural Resource Division will have questions about and provide feedback to the applicant about shellfish while dredging. Otherwise, she doesn't foresee Natural Resources having any oppositions.**

**7. Special Presentations:** None

**8. Old Business:** None

**9. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:** None

The Shellfish Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion made by Bob and seconded by Bill at 8:02 PM to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Alicia Lauzon – MEA Administrative Assistant