

Shellfish Committee Minutes of the Meeting

DATE: February 17, 2010
TIME: 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.
LOCATION: MEAD Building

Shellfish Committee Members present:

Stuart Rapp, Gerard Ganey, Les Hemmila, Andre Sampou

General Public present:

Mark Begley

NR Staff present:

Doug Kalweit

Chairman's Report:

Stuart Rapp chaired the February 17th, 2010 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

The Shellfish Committee adopted the minutes of the January 20th 2010 meeting of the Shellfish Committee subject to the following revisions by the Shellfish Committee:

Stuart noted that the December 16th, 2009 Shellfish Committee meeting was not cancelled but briefly opened then closed at the request of the committee due to the lack of a quorum.

Correction of the spelling of Dennis Houle's name in the "Chairman's Report" section.

The Shellfish Committee only discussed the proceedings of the Coastal Resource Management Committee in the "Coastal Resources Management Committee Report" section.

Stuart Rapp informed the Shellfish Committee that the Conservation Commission Chairman, Dennis Houle, responded to the Shellfish Committee's inquiry about unregulated "out-haul posts" situated in Town coastal waters. Stuart explained that the Conservation Commission attended to the issue and drafted permitting regulations. Stuart explained that he and the Water Ways Chairman will attend a workshop with the Conservation Commission to review and discuss the draft regulations.

Stuart informed the committee that Town Councilor Rick Barry is still the council's liaison to the Shellfish Committee.

The Town Council will hold either a first reading or a full public hearing for the final report of the Coastal Resource Management Committee (CRMC) on March 4th, 2010. Andre Sampou said he would find out if a first reading was scheduled. The CRMC report is available on the Town's website and at four of the Town's libraries.

Natural Resources Report:

Doug Kalweit informed the Shellfish Committee that the Town hired Matthew Loo as a Seasonal Shellfish Propagation Technician. Doug noted that Matthew Loo is knowledgeable and experienced in the field of aquaculture and an excellent choice for the position.

Doug Kalweit informed the Shellfish Committee that currently there is \$23,381 in the Shellfish Propagation Revolving Fund with an additional \$28,747 encumbered for the Seasonal Shellfish Propagation Technician position.

Doug Kalweit informed the Shellfish Committee that the Natural Resources Office will offer two shellfishing class for young people ("Clamming Class for Kids"); one on Wednesday, April 21st @ 11:00 A.M. and another on Saturday, April 24th @ 1:00 P.M. at Cordwood Landing, Cotuit Bay. Doug showed the committee a "Clamming Class for Kids" activity booklet that Natural Resources Officer Amy Raitto updated for this year.

In the past, Natural Resources questionnaire forms were made available to recreational shellfishermen to ascertain shellfishing interests and harvest data for the 2007 and 2008 recreational shellfishing seasons. Doug informed the committee that the Natural Resources Office is requesting recreational shellfishermen fill out a "shellfish survey questionnaire" (available at the Natural Resources Office) for the 2009 season. The Shellfish Committee expressed the value of such a survey questionnaire.

Old Business

The Shellfish Committee forwarded a discussion of NR shellfish propagation plans to the March meeting of the committee.

Gerard Ganey and Andre Sampou requested that volunteer work schedules for shellfish propagation projects be formulated by NR.

New Business

Shellfish Aquaculture License Renewal Applications

The Shellfish Committee reviewed, discussed and recommended that the shellfish aquaculture license renewal application of Eric Hildreth be approved by the Town Manager. Eric Hildreth's shellfish aquaculture site is located in Barnstable Harbor (Area 1; site ng007; 1.97 acres). A public hearing for the proposed transfer application will be held on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 at 9:30 A.M. in the Selectman's Conference Room, Town Hall Building, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

The Shellfish Committee reviewed, discussed and recommended that the shellfish aquaculture license renewal application of Scott Mullin be approved by the Town Manager. Scott Mullin's shellfish aquaculture site is located in Barnstable Harbor (Area 1; site ng012; 2.0 acres). A public hearing for the proposed transfer application will be held on Monday, March 8th, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. in the Selectman's Conference Room, Town Hall Building, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

Shellfish Aquaculture License Transfer Application

The Shellfish Committee reviewed, discussed and recommended that the shellfish aquaculture license transfer application from Edith L. Hayes to Thomas C. Wood be approved by the Town Manager. Edith Hayes' shellfish aquaculture site is located in Barnstable Harbor (Area 1; site ng055; 1.0 acre). A public hearing for the proposed transfer application will be held on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. in the Selectman's Conference Room, Town Hall Building, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

Other Business

Gerard noted that there was no opening notification for a quahog propagation project area near the shoreline of Little Island in West Bay. Volunteers who worked on the project did not participate in the harvest of the quahogs because of no notification that the project area was open.