



Town of Barnstable
Community Services Department
Marine and Environmental Affairs Division
1189 Phinneys Lane, Centerville Ma. 02632
www.town.barnstable.ma.us



Natural Resources 508-790-6272
Harbormaster 508-790-6273
Animal Control 508-790-6274
Sandy Neck 508-790-6272
Gatehouse 508-362-8300 (April – Nov)

Daniel J. Horn, Director
Office: 508-790-6273
FAX: 508-790-6275

Shellfish Committee Minutes of the Meeting

DATE: March 18, 2015
TIME: 7:30 P.M. to 8:08 P.M.
LOCATION: Town Hall

Shellfish Committee Members present: Stuart Rapp, Linda Romano, Gerard Ganey, Richard Haskell, Les Hemmila

General Public present: Christopher Freeman, Mark Begley

Town Council Liaison present: Phil Wallace

Town Staff present: Tom Marcotti, Liz Lewis, Terri McDonald

Stuart Rapp chaired the March 18, 2015 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

Stuart Rapp took a roll call of members present at the meeting.

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."

1.) Meeting minutes:

The Shellfish Committee unanimously approved a motion made by Gerard Ganey and seconded by Linda Romano to approve the February 18, 2015 meeting minutes as written.

2.) Chairman's comments:

Stuart Rapp received a letter from Arlene Wilson regarding the Kraft Pier at the end of Tracey Road that was previously reviewed by Shellfish Committee. At the October 15, 2014 Shellfish Committee Meeting *"The Shellfish Committee unanimously approved a motion that Stuart Rapp send a letter to the Conservation Commission stating that the Shellfish Committee has no objection to the proposed pier project, subject to the installation of access stairs in the vicinity of the mean low water line and no motorized vessels allowed."*

The letter was never drafted, however the plans were changed to satisfy this request. DEP is requesting written verification that this change was made at the request of the Shellfish Committee. The Shellfish Committee unanimously approved a motion made by Les Hemmila and seconded by Richard Haskell to have Stuart Rapp draft a letter to DEP, copying Ms. Wilson to verify that it is the Shellfish Committee's request that the stairs be located at the mean low water line.

3.) Natural Resource Propagation Report:

Tom Marcotti reported the scheduled upcoming DMF annual closures for April 1, 2015.

- **Shoestring Bay Closure:**

The lower portion of Shoestring Bay shall be closed to all shellfishing as of Wednesday, April 1, 2015 per order of DMF.

The lower portion of Shoestring Bay is defined as: The waters, flats and all tributaries of Shoestring Bay in the Towns of Mashpee and Barnstable, easterly of a line drawn south from the southernmost point of Mashpee Neck to Punkhorn Point; northerly of a line drawn from Punkhorn Point to Ryefield Point and southerly of a line drawn from Simons Narrows Road in the Town of Mashpee to the "Public Way to Water" in the Town of Barnstable. (DMF/SC20.3; classified as conditionally approved; status: Closed to shellfishing April 1 through October 31, all dates inclusive. The area shall not automatically reopen to shellfishing on November 1 and will remain closed until examined and shellfishing is allowed by DMF.).

- **Scudder Lane Recreational Shellfishing Area Seasonal Closure:**

Effective Wednesday, April 1, 2015, the Scudder Lane Recreational Shellfishing Area (as defined) in Barnstable Harbor is closed to the harvest of all shellfish. Opening dates for the Scudder Lane Recreational Shellfishing Area will be posted annually.

- **Oyster Season Closure:**

Effective Wednesday, April 1, 2015, the recreational harvest of oysters is prohibited throughout the Town of Barnstable.

- **DMF Scallop Season Closure:**

The harvest of scallops shall be closed, (prohibited) effective April 1st annually, MGL CH 130 sec. 71. Open season will be posted annually.

Tom Marcotti also showed the committee pictures of Barnstable Harbor iced in. It is anticipated that there will need to be a lot of assessing of shellfish areas this year due to the severity of the ice over this past winter. The Shellfish Propagation Revolving Fund balance is \$124,707.25.

Liz Lewis reports the numbers of 2015/2016 shellfish permits to date sold is 451 resident permits down 184 from 2014 and 65 non-resident, down 27 from 2014 for a total of 516 permits, down 211 from 2014. The difference is attributed to the bad weather.

4.) Status of pending pier applications before the Conservation Commission:

132 Bay Shore Road Pier Application in Lewis Bay was heard last night. A private survey was performed and reported that it was a compromised habitat. Tom Marcotti concurs with the survey. This particular area does not have any viability. Tom Marcotti reported that he has made comment to the Conservation Commission.

5.) Old business:

Report by the aquaculture sub-committee regarding transferability of Aquaculture licenses.

Sub-committee did not meet, no report was presented.

6.) New Business:

None

6.) Public Comment:

Chris Freeman addressed the Shellfish Committee to request that the Commercial Shellfish License fee due date to be extended to the end of April with the permission to fish during the month of April due to hardship caused by the harsh winter. The Natural Resource Office will be advised of the request.

Les Hemmila inquired about processes to apply for an aquaculture license in a new area not yet designated by the Town. It was decided that the answer is located in Section 407.52 of the Shellfish Regulations.

The Shellfish Committee unanimously approved a motion made by Les Hemmila and seconded by Richard Haskell to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri McDonald, Administrative Assistant