

Town of Barnstable
Marine and Environmental Affairs
1189 Phinney's Lane, Centerville MA 02632
www.town.barnstable.ma.us



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

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)

Shellfish Committee Minutes of the Meeting
DATE: August 21, 2019
TIME: 7:00 P.M. to 7:40 P.M.
LOCATION: Senior Center, 825 Falmouth Road, Hyannis

Shellfish Committee Members present: Chairman: Stuart Rapp, Jacob Angelo, Paul Caruso, Patricia Farinha, Bill Shumway, Robert Lancaster arrived- at 7:13 pm

Shellfish Committee Members absent: Al Suprenant

General Public present: Tyler Hagenstein, and William S Korkuch.

Town Council Liaison absent: Phil Wallace

Town Staff present: Tom Marcotti, Shellfish Biologist, Devon Harrington, Natural Resource Officer/Aquaculture Specialist and Pam Swider-Cohen, Clerk of the Board.

Stuart Rapp chaired the August 21, 2019 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 voted by majority to approve a Motion made by Caruso and seconded by Farinha to approve the Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2019 as written.

2. Chairman's comments: None

3. Natural Resources Report: August, 2019

Tom Marcotti gave the Propagation Report as follows:

Elizabeth Lewis the Town of Barnstable Shellfish Technician and her seasonal crew have done a great job growing oysters and quahogs for us again this year. Propagation is really cranking with oysters on the Northside, in Cotuit Bay and Bay Street. Quahogs are growing well in the Floating Upweller System (FLUPSY) at Prince Cove.

Marcotti reviewed the Shellfish permit sales to date for 2019; the total resident permits sold are 2098 which is up 70 over 2018. Non-resident sales have increased as well; 225 sold which is up 30 from 2018.

Nonresident Veterans may purchase a Town of Barnstable Shellfish permit at the resident's rate as a part of the Brave Bill the State passed in 2018. Seasonal permit sales at 27 which is down 11 from 2018. Marcotti believes people just want to buy the full season. The MEA Office has been selling more merchandise in 2019 in addition to the gauge and peck baskets available for sale are basket rakes, clam forks, and basket floats.

Since the early eighties, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) water testing results find high fecal counts due to the migratory birds arrival and as a result, DMF issues closures effective on September 15 annually. The closure includes Calves Pasture, Sand Island Creek, Spring Creek, Whale bar, Barnstable Inner Harbor to the can to Indian Trail and Mill Creek. The grant area remains open. Angelo inquired how to get testing done on the cove and Tupper Island? According to Marcotti, through a formal request to DMF they may consider doing the testing requested. William S. Korkuch, a commercial shellfisherman, who has been fishing this area since the late eighties states that no science from the eighties is being used today. If needed we, as a committee, can send a letter to request testing per Chairman Rapp. Harrington agreed to bring the request to the Shellfish Constable Amy Croteau. If required, a formal letter from the Shellfish Committee may be provided. DMF has ultimate jurisdiction over closures; the Town's Public Health Department may also issue closures for health concerns.

Tonight's informational issues: Testing of West Bay water quality is very good. The Federal government mandates the State to do site testing every twelve (12) years and every three (3) years at a specific list of known points of concern.

4. **Old Business:** None

5. **New Business:**

1. **Applicant:** Vic Myer
Project Location: 24 Bay Road
Cotuit, MA 02635
Map 020/Parcels 118
Proposed Project: Proposal to construct and maintain a boardwalk, pier, ramp and float
Public Hearing: July 9, 2019, 6:30PM
Barnstable Town Hall, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA, Hearing Room

As there is not a lot of Shellfishing going on in this very mucky area, the committee moved to the next agenda item.

2. **Presentation of the Barnstable Harbor Aquaculture Clean Up Initiative:**

Devon Harrington, Natural Resource Officer/Aquaculture Specialist presented to the Shellfish Committee the plan which has been sent to the Barnstable Harbor Aquaculturists for the "2019 Aquaculture Clean-up". Two Aquaculturists are present at the meeting, Korkuch and Hagenstein, information was mailed and e-mailed to all of the grant holders. The Natural Resource Department is hoping that all will participate in the clean-up of Barnstable Harbor with the many minus tides in the next two months there will be ample opportunity to remove derelict gear. Gear is now tagged and can be better identified as to who owns it. The second page of the form that was sent identified what has been retrieved, how it was disposed or if it was usable gear. By participation in this clean up, the Aquaculturists will be helping to keep the industry green. Rapp asked if Harrington would return to the Shellfish with an update of the success of the "2019 Aquaculture Clean-up".

With no further matters for discussion, the Shellfish Committee unanimously approved a motion made by Caruso and seconded by Shumway to adjourn at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Swider-Cohen