



MEETING MINUTES
Shellfish Advisory Committee
Wednesday July 17, 2019 6:30pm-9:00pm
North Scituate WPA Building
19 Henry Turner Bailey Road

Committee Members in Attendance: Jeff Palmer, Jamie Davenport, Susan Harrison, Mike Dimeo and Craig Rosenquist.

Committee Members not in Attendance: None

Committee Liaisons in Attendance: None

Also, in Attendance: Bob Wigmore, Mike Cotter, John Tedeschi, David Dauphinee, Andrew Slater and David Sincoski

This meeting was called to order by Jamie Davenport at 6:55PM.

Update on Site Survey. No Update. The Town Administrator has not heard anything yet.

Update and Discussion on Community Preservation Commission (CPC) Application Funding. The CPC suggested that the funding should come out of the Waterways Commission. Craig will have the funding request added to a future Waterways Agenda.

Continue group discussion on the Application and Town Rules and Regulations governing commercial aquaculture -Discuss and prepare for Waterways meeting presentation. Craig Rosenquist walked through highlights of a proposed presentation to the Waterways Commission including: a brief background on commercial aquaculture, the Shellfish Advisory Committee charge, and maps and proposed sites. He walked through additional information including maps and background information on how other towns implemented aquaculture.

The Committee walked through the Waterways Commission's comments on the regulations from the last Waterways meeting including:

How will the Regulations be presented? The Shellfish Advisory Committee will present the regulations and the Waterways Commission will include notes and recommendations in the margins. The BOS will make the final decision on the regulations.

Who will contact the Town Clerk regarding application and fee acceptance? Susan has reached out to the Town Clerk about this.

The Waterways Commission suggested that all days should be “business days”. The Shellfish Advisory Committee researched this and MGL refers to “days” and not “business days” so, the Shellfish Advisory Committee has decided to remain consistent with MGL.

Shawn Harris suggested an application and an interview process. The Shellfish Advisory Committee will consider adding that when the application is drafted.

Waterways asked if Town Counsel is going to check general law provisions. Yes, Town Counsel will review after the BOS.

Waterways suggested that there should be a waitlist process once the initial pilot plots are given out and that the remaining plots would be assigned by the Board of Selectmen. The Shellfish Advisory Committee decided to change “wait list” to “prequalified list.” The prequalified list will be a list of qualified applications denied during a moratorium or not accepted during the pilot.

Waterways thought that the ability to transfer would stop new farmers from starting businesses. The Shellfish Advisory Committee notes that most towns allow transferability. Craig suggested that you should only be able to transfer it to a person on the waitlist (prequalified list). There was a discussion regarding whether plots should be allowed to be transferred. A final recommendation from Waterways could not be made. The Shellfish Advisory Committee gave transferability a lot of thought. Ultimately, the Committee will propose allowing transferability per MGL.

Waterways suggested increasing the minimum levels of investment and production. The Shellfish Advisory Committee decided to increase both investment and production numbers to \$10,000 per acre.

Waterways suggested talking out an automatic approval after 60 days. The Shellfish Advisory committee agrees and deleted the word “approve”.

Waterways asked what type of insurance would be required. The Shellfish Advisory Committee researched insurance and decided to require \$1,000,000 per acre and require that the TOWN OF SCITUATE be named as an additional insured.

Waterways suggested an email address and phone number for the application. The Shellfish Advisory Committee will investigate getting a town email address for the Shellfish Advisory Committee prior to releasing the application.

Walk on. None

There being no more business to discuss, Susan Harrison called for a motion to adjourn at 7:52PM. Seconded by Jamie Davenport.

Unanimous Vote (5:0)

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Harrison