



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Scituate Shellfish Advisory Committee**  
**Tuesday November 19, 2019 6:30pm**  
**Former Board of Health Conference Room**  
**Scituate Town Hall**

**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:** Ben Bornstein

**Also, in Attendance:** John Mendlein, Mike Cotter, David Dauphine, Andrew Slater, John Tedeschi, Kevin Burt.

**This meeting was called to order by Susan Harrison at 6:51PM.**

**Vote to approve October 24, 2109 meeting minutes. Jamie Davenport made a motion to approve and Jeff Palmer seconded the motion. All in favor of approval (5:0)**

**6:55pm Update Regarding changes to Rules and Regulation from Board of Selectman's meeting Tuesday October 29, 2019** – Susan updated the group that the minor changes suggested by the BOS at the last BOS meeting were made and the regulations were sent to the BOS and Town Counsel for final review.

**7:10pm Discuss public meeting Wednesday November 20, 2019 with the Town of Cohasset, MA**

Susan updated the group about the format of the Cohasset Public Meeting. Cohasset is running the meeting and have invited the Scituate BOS and Shellfish Advisory Committee. The groups who use Bassings Beach/ Briggs Harbor for recreation will present regarding the use of the area. The Chair of the BOS intends to then present briefly regarding the process of implementing aquaculture and where the Town of Scituate is in the process. The Shellfish Advisory Committee will not present but will attend to answer questions that the audience has on the regulations or aquaculture in general.

**7:20pm Discuss Correspondence from John Mendlein to the Shellfish Advisory Committee Regarding recreation and an environmental assessment.**

John Mendlein attended the meeting and was able to discuss his concerns in person. He indicated that he did not want a formal response to the letter but wanted to bring up some points about the nature in the area.

John Mendlein's letter asked the Committees considering aquaculture to also consider repurposing coastal areas to protect and promote natural resources and wildlife as well as respect and protect the existing recreation uses of our coastal areas for boating, hiking, hunting, fishing, paddling, clamming, oystering, musseling, lobstering, crabbing and birding. He also wants the board to consider how the repurposing will impact wildlife survival.

The committee addressed some of his concerns. Jamie Davenport explained that the typical less than 18 inch off- bottom equipment used creates habitat for some species. The committee reiterated that the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Scientists would formally review the site for suitability for aquaculture. In their review they will consider other species there. Susan Harrison addressed recreation and said that the committee is considering all recreation at Briggs Harbor/ Bassings Beach and will draft a proposal that has minimal impact on the existing recreation at the site.

John Mendlein's letter also suggested that the committee should consider alternative plans including restoring and replenishing coastal areas with one or more of the following: restoring sand, augmenting rock structures, shellfish seeding projects, and plant seeding projects. Dave Dauphine and Mike DiMeo gave examples of successful shellfish seeding projects in the North River. The Shellfish Advisory Committee will continue to build on previous seeding efforts in Scituate waters as well as water testing initiatives designed to open additional bodies of water to shellfishing.

8:00pm Walk on - None

**8:00pm Craig Rosenquist made a motion to adjourn and Jeff Palmer seconded. All in Favor (5:0)**

Respectfully Submitted by Susan Harrison