



MEETING MINUTES

Scituate Shellfish Advisory Committee

Thursday January 30, 2020 6:30pm

Conference Room

Public Safety Complex

Committee Members in Attendance: Susan Harrison, Mike DiMeo, Jeff Palmer, Scott Connelly and Paula Lind

Committee Members not in Attendance: Adam Bisol

Committee Liaisons in Attendance: None

Also, in Attendance: Mike Cotter, Jamie Davenport, John Tedeschi, Craig Rosenquist

Agenda/Scheduled items:

Susan Harrison called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Discussion and approval of January 9, 2020 and January 16, 2020 meeting minutes.

Meeting minutes were discussed. Mike DiMeo made a motion to approve. Jeff Palmer seconded. (5-0) Approved.

Introduction of New Committee Members:

Scott Connelly a resident of the Glades introduced himself. He has been following the progress of the pilot program. He's very familiar with Brigg's Harbor and Bassings Beach.

Paula Lind a life-time resident of Scituate introduced herself. She is very interested in the aquaculture and preservation of the waterways in Scituate and looks forward to giving back to the town.

Discussed role of recording Secretary and Selection.

Paula Lind volunteered to be the Recording Secretary. Susan Harrison will review with Paula all requirements of the position. A motion was made by Susan Harrison to approve Paula Lind as Recording Secretary. Mike DiMeo seconded. (5-0) Approved.

Review and discuss map:

The map was posted on the wall of the room. All in attendance reviewed the Map and current placement of the 7 farms. Four of the 7 (Plots 1-4) were placed in a square (two next to two) close to the large unnamed rock. The other three were proposed south of the river that drains the Glades marsh.



The second group was proposed in a line so that at high and mid-tide the buoys could be used to mark the brook back to Minot Beach Parking lot. Mike DiMeo proposed an 8th plot and having two groups of 4 squares. After discussion there was a consensus to place potential farm locations on the North East and South side of Briggs Harbor in two sets of 4 making squares. The rationale

for a line of plots for the group on the North East was to mark the channel, so it was suggested to twist the 4 square plots so that they would align with the channel.



It was noted that two distinct locations would be good for research and education. It would help us understand where shellfish grow better. Both sites have benefits and potential risks.

A motion was made by Mike DiMeo to approve the map of 8 plots as presented. The motion was seconded by Paula Lind. (5-0) Approved

Application and Review Criteria:

Application:

The first item of discussion proposed by Mike DiMeo was to remove the location of Briggs Harbor/Bassings Beach from the application title. This would generalize the application if the time comes that other locations in Scituate were to issue Shellfish grants. Since this is a Pilot program it was agreed to leave the location on the application and add Pilot Program.

The second item of discussion was the “Grant number requested by each applicant” Several options were discussed including entering 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices of Farm locations. It was initially proposed that the applicant with the highest points would have first choice on the farm location. The consensus was to have each applicant choose 1 location. If there are duplicate requests of the same location, it will be determined by a fair lottery.

Additional discussion included adding an email address to the application.

Also, it was discussed that to decrease the administrative burden of the town, requiring each applicant must submit 6 complete copies of the application with the \$300 fee.

Paula Lind made a motion to approve the Application. Jeff Palmer seconded. (5-0) Approved

Review Criteria

The committee discussed the scoring and perhaps receiving guidance from the Town Administrator and the BOS. Susan Harrison felt that we should get clarification from the Board of Selectman regarding the review process and that the initial review of applications may require an Executive session.

Jeff Palmer suggested adding a column next to the points with a blank box for the committee to fill in the points for each line item.

A motion was made by Susan Harrison to approve sending the Map, Application and Review criteria to the Board of Selectman which will be on the Agenda Tuesday February 4th at 9:30 pm

Seconded by Jeff Palmer. Approved (5-0)

Open Discussion

The committee discussed possible aquaculture outreach and educational initiatives. There was discussion to collaborate with the Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research (CSCR). The committee felt that this step within the Pilot Program can be discussed as we get closer to the implementation of the actual start of the farms Jamie Davenport mentioned a program where students could study the science of the farms specifically diseases of different types.

On a final note Scott Connelly shared with the committee that the Minot Beach Association and North Scituate Beach Association become involved with the program. Scott offered to communicate with these organizations. This will be a positive step towards acquiring a compatible environment for everyone.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Paula Lind

Recording Secretary