



MEETING MINUTES
Shellfish Advisory Committee
Monday March 20, 2019 6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Scituate Public Library
Community Room
85 Branch Street

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

Committee Members not in Attendance: None

Also, in Attendance: Dave Dauphinee, David Sincoski, Sue Bryant, Bob Wigmore, and John Tedeschi

This meeting was called to order by Mike Dimeo at 6:45PM.

Update on Site Visit to Briggs Harbor:

Mike Dimeo discussed the site visit to Briggs Harbor. He explained that on Monday March 18, 2019 at around 3:00pm Committee Members & Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) officials and guests departed from the Cohasset Center for Student Coastal Research (CCSCR) Parker Avenue Boat Ramp and arrived at Briggs Harbor.

The Committee and guests walked around the flats and attempted to estimate the size of farmable flats as well as preliminarily evaluate the substrate on the flats. Chris Schillaci and Gabe Lundgren suggested that preliminarily the site seemed feasible. There were no grasses growing on the site and little evidence of existing bivalve activity. While a couple razor clams were noted, no quahogs were found. Chris noted that it was not a site suitable for beginner farmers. While the site is ideal regarding water flow, water quality, protection, substrate (hard sand), and no existing native bivalves, the challenge with the site is accessibility.

The committee and guests discussed accessibility options including launching a flats boat in Cohasset Harbor or aquaculture farmers on a case by case basis negotiating access through private land.

Assessment and Measurement of Proposed Aquaculture Site (Briggs Harbor):

Jamie Davenport discussed the lack of definitive and consistent property/ land and survey documents regarding Scituate Town ownership and private property owners in and around Briggs Harbor site. Follow up is needed to determine definitive town/ private ownership of the area in and around Briggs Harbor.

Discussion of Regulations:

The committee and guests reviewed draft regulations and discussed the structure of grants including if individuals or corporations can access grants; ownership rules including residency and experience; methods to minimize town liability; and fee structures to address town costs for processing and publicizing aquaculture applications. The committee also discussed drafting regulations so that they could be applicable to other locations in Scituate including the rivers and Harbor.

Next Meeting: Monday April 1, 2019 at 6:30pm tentative location Public Library Community Room.

Proposed Agenda: Review of Assessment and Measurement of proposed aquaculture site. In addition, we will continue our working session drafting regulations including a detailed discussion, page by page review of Aquaculture Regulations from other towns.

There being no more business to discuss, Jamie Davenport for a motion to adjourn at 8:45PM.

Seconded by Susan Harrison.

Unanimous Vote (5:0)

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrison