



MEETING MINUTES
Shellfish Advisory Committee
Wednesday June 12, 2019 6:30pm-9:00pm
North Scituate WPA Building
19 Henry Turner Bailey Road

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

Committee Liaisons in Attendance: Shawn Harris

Also, in Attendance: Dave Dauphinee, Bob Wigmore, Mike Cotter, Dave Haley, Pernilla Haley, and Andrew Slater.

This meeting was called to order by Susan Harrison at 6:34PM.

Approval of the May 29, 2019 meeting minutes. Jamie Davenport made a motion to approve, Craig Rosenquist second. All in favor (5-0) Approved.

Update on June 5, 2019 Waterways Meeting.

Craig Rosenquist updated the Committee regarding the Shellfish Advisory Committee discussion at the June 5, 2019 Waterways Commission Meeting. The Waterways Commission plans to review the Aquaculture Regulations and Application. At their July 10, 2019 meeting we will present an overview and discuss Waterways comments on the regulations and the application. The Waterways Commission plans to reserve the August 7, 2019 meeting for public comments on the regulations and the application. Some preliminary comments suggest that Waterways Commission has questions on transferability and rules pertaining to contiguous sites which we discussed later in the agenda.

At the Waterways meeting it was suggested that we reach out to Sara Grady, Watershed Ecologist at the North and South Rivers Watershed Association to update her on the Shellfish Advisory Committee goals and work. Susan Harrison updated the committee regarding a conversation she had with Sara Grady briefing her on what the committee has accomplished so far. She was very receptive to the work done in Briggs Harbor and interested in being involved. Sara highlighted water quality testing barriers to opening additional bodies of water. She

mentioned that there are many communities on the South Shore and the Cape that encounter similar problems due to lack of State resources to test the waters. The Committee would like to work with Sara and other South Shore Towns to discuss and advocate for a solution with the State.

Dave Dauphinee echoed Sara's concern with water testing resources and suggested a post Briggs Harbor plan to for better shellfish management including how the North and South Rivers connect to what we are doing in Briggs Harbor.

Update and Discussion on Possible Funding Sources for Implementation of Commercial Aquaculture.

Since the Shellfish Advisory Committee does not have a budget, we need to explore how to get funding for the implementation of Commercial Aquaculture in Briggs Harbor. The Economic Development Commission (EDC) and Community Preservation Committee (CPC) are possible funding sources. The initial survey work was paid for by the EDC. There may be additional costs including more survey work, legal work and signage consisting of buoys and markers for the location. Susan Harrison agreed to look at the CPC application to determine if anything we need would fit into the goals of the CPC.

Continue group discussion on the Application and Town Rules and Regulations governing commercial aquaculture.

The Committee briefly discussed the Waterways Commission's initial thoughts and comments.

One question that came up at the Waterways Meeting was if in the regulations we would require that sites be contiguous. The committee discussed this and thought that generally for planning purposes, contiguous sites make a lot of sense. However, there could be a situation where a farmer wants additional acreage and the only available space is non-contiguous. The committee thought that ideally contiguous acreage makes sense; however, we might want to leave flexibility in case that is not an option for a farmer to expand.

Another question that came up is to allow transferability or not. Previously, the Shellfish Advisory Committee voted unanimously to allow for transferability with controls in place in the regulations to avoid pitfalls. While the committee sees both sides, they favor an approach to manage the transferability. However, our position will have to be clearly explained in the Waterways Commission Meeting.

Schedule Next Meeting: June 25th at 6:30pm at WPA building.

There being no more business to discuss Susan Harrison made a motion to adjourn at 8:06pm

Second by Jeff Palmer. All in Favor (5-0) Approved.