



MEETING MINUTES
Shellfish Advisory Committee
Wednesday May 29, 2019 6:30pm-9:00pm
North Scituate WPA Building
19 Henry Turner Bailey Road

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

Committee Liaisons in Attendance: RJ Dwyer

Committee Guest: Chris Schillaci, Aquaculture and Vibrio Specialist at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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

This meeting was called to order by Susan Harrison at 6:31PM.

Approval of the May 15, 2019 meeting minutes. Jamie Davenport made a motion to approve, Craig Rosenquist second. All in favor (5-0) Approved.

Update on Site Survey and Funding. Jamie Davenport and Craig Rosenquist gave a brief update on the funding for the aerial drone survey of the Briggs Harbor Site done by Greg Morse and Steve Moran on Tuesday May 7, 2019 and Saturday May 11, 2019. The Shellfish Advisory Committee asked the Economic Development Committee (EDC) for \$5000 to pay for survey and title search. Ann Burbine who is liaison from Community Preservation Committee (CPC) attended the EDC meeting and suggested that the Shellfish Advisory Committee apply for CPC funding. The EDC approved funding the Shellfish Advisory Committee \$3500.

The application for CPC funding is due at the end of June and if approved, the CPC money would be available in October.

Susan Harrison volunteered to look at the CPC application and report back at the next meeting.

Update on Title Search. Buchanan and Associates will complete the title search. Jamy Buchanan will update the committee on the timeline of the title search within the next week. The cost of the title search is \$400.

Review Proposed Grant Application Process.

Chris Schillaci, Aquaculture and Vibrio Specialist at the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries called into the meeting and gave suggestions on the Scituate Draft Regulations and Application.

Overall, Chris had positive comments on the regulations and the application.

The committee asked if residency requirements were standard. Chris said that most towns have a residency requirement for a grant.

The committee also asked about recommendations of initial implementation. The committee debated a lottery or first come first served or an application process. The committee voted to have an application because the process seemed the most fair and equitable. Chris suggested that if the committee settles on an application that the metrics need to be clear and identifiable. In addition, a ranking system would be ideal. The Committee agreed to discuss a ranking system at a future meeting.

The Committee discussed with Chris the size of possible aquaculture farms in Scituate. The low-end estimate of farmable acreage is 25 acres at Briggs Harbor with the possibility of double or triple the acreage. Chris suggested that the committee discuss and evaluate the enforcement capability for the number of acres approved. Currently there is a part time Shellfish Constable and sizable acreage requires additional staffing or a full time Constable. The Committee asked if there are recommended staffing ratios and Chris said that there are not. Each town is different with different circumstances. He suggested that 5 or 6 farmers with around 15-18 acres total could work with a part time constable. The Committee agreed to discuss staffing and resources at a future meeting.

Chris also suggested that the Committee engage with the Conservation Commission and the Conservation Agent/ Natural Resource Officer to discuss requirements for larger sites. Jamie Davenport agreed to call her.

The Committee asked Chris about inheritability and/or transferability of licenses. Chris said that most towns allow it or are starting to allow it. He thinks it is good as we have it drafted where it is allowed with the final decision of transferability residing with the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee asked Chris if you need access to upwellers or floats or a designated float area. Chris said that Plymouth drafted a policy on designated float areas and that he would send it to us.

Schedule Next Meeting: June 12, 2019 at 6:30pm Location N. Scituate WPA Building.
Proposed Agenda includes updates on all action items.

There being no more business to discuss, Susan Harrison called for a motion to adjourn at 8:35PM. Seconded by Jamie Davenport.

Unanimous Vote (5:0)

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Harrison