

Shellfish Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 6:30PM

Zoom Meeting

Attended: Rebecca Taylor, Tom Siggia, Jake Puffer, Zake Dixon, John Duane, Damian Parkington

Absent: Chip Benton

Others in attendance: Nancy Civetta, Helen Miranda Wilson, Ryan Curley, John Mankevetch, Owen Nichols, John Riehl, Katie Castagno, Dan Morton, Jordon Halloran

Rebecca Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:35PM

Minutes of Last Meeting

J. Duane made motion to approve minutes of February 3, 2021 meeting. R. Taylor 2nd, all in favor 5-0.

Wellfleet Harbor Studies – Owen Nichols

O. Nichols presented the initial work being conducted in harbor. He is seeking our support to replicate the “Curley report”. The last Curley report was in 1968/69. The agreement at that time was to redo the harbor study every 10 years or so. The importance of creating a new baseline and framework is timely with both the dredging of harbor and the Herring River Project on the horizon.

Algae and predators as it relates to shellfish were discussed. Owen asked us to send others areas we would want sampled.

J. Puffer made motion to support NRAB efforts to revisit the Curley Report. J. Duane 2nd, all in favor 5-0.

NRAB (Curley Report) – John Duane

J. Duane informed the team that the NRAB is meeting on March 18th to discuss next steps in supporting the Curley Report. Important that the SAB supports. The proposal for the report is estimated at a \$63k cost.

Discussion of possible exemption of Domicile requirements – SAB Team

H. Wilson as an individual, started the conversation and produced a document from our Shellfish regulations , for the team to review. The team discussed many edit possibilities to tackle the serious issue of housing in Wellfleet. H. Wilson will incorporate the discussion points made by team and review updated document at our next meeting in April.

Shellfish Department Update – Nancy Civetta

Monthly reports will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Propagation Update – J. Mankevetch reviewed the propagation efforts for 2020 and his plan for 2021. Approximately 200,000 oyster seed was distributed in recreational and commercial areas in the fall. 40,000 hat seed, donated by a local grower will be distributed in harbor later this year and 100,000 overwintered seed will be ready for distribution around harbor later this year. John mentioned 3 ideas they are considering for 2021. Bottom planting, planting at low density areas and planting quahog seed in cages in same areas.

Rights of Public Access – N. Civetta

Nancy reviewed the 49 different landing in Wellfleet Harbor used as Shellfish access points. Also, included a map of the area labeling each landing.

Shellfish Revolving Fund Limit FY 2022 – N. Civetta

Nancy asked the SAB to approve the spending limit for FY 2022 of \$50,000 to support the Shellfish departments propagation efforts. R. Taylor made a motion to approve, T. Siggia 2nd, all in favor 4-0.

CIP Truck Proposal – N. Civetta

Nancy asked for support to replace a 2016 vehicle with a new one. Normally vehicles are replaced every 5 years, however last year due to Covid it was removed from her budget request. R. Taylor made a motion to approve, T. Siggia 2nd, all in favor 4-0.

Seasonal Recreational Permit Sales – N. Civetta

Nancy proposed not to sell Seasonal Recreational Permits. (same as last year). The town sold 100 less permits, however made an additional \$500 selling full year recreational permits. The recreational area had a good amount of individuals all year. R. Taylor made motion to approve, D. Parkington 2nd, all in favor 4-0.

Next SAB Meeting is April 6th at 6:30

T. Siggia made motion to close meeting at 9:31 PM, R.Taylor 2nd, all in favor 4-0