

Shellfish Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2023 7:30 PM
Hybrid Meeting – Senior Center and Zoom

Board Attendees: John Duane (via zoom), Ethan Estey, Karen Johnson, Adrien Kmiec, Brad Morse (alternate), Rebecca Taylor (via zoom), Damien Parkington (alternate), Steven Pickard, Rebecca Taylor (via zoom),

Number of Public Attendees Including Zoom: 15

Meeting Opened: 7:32 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 9:10 PM

Announcements, Open Session & Public Comments

Adrien Kmiec acknowledged the passing of Wellfleet fisherman, shellfisherman, and shellfish grant holder Bob Mallory.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – July 28, 2023

Ethan Estey made a motion to approve the minutes. Steven Pickard seconded the motion. The board voted 7-0-0 to accept the minutes.

Discuss, deliberate and vote to authorize response to Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Jude Ahern dated July 28, 2023

B. Morse voiced his concerns about the process in which agendas and policy were set in this instance and noted that this is a democracy and this needs to stop
S. Pickard noted that reliance the town has shown on K.P. law in this situation and that it was inappropriate to cancel the SAB meeting because there were other issues to discuss at the meeting rather than corporations, with five topics on the agenda.

E. Estey read aloud the requested action the complaint would like to take.

B. Morse voiced his concerns that we need to come together.

J. Ahern stated that she was satisfied with the way the SAB addressed the issue, she wasn't going to pursue it further, and we no longer need to address it. She requested we don't vote to send the letter and to move on to more important Topics.

S. Pickard made a motion to not send the letter from town counsel. Adrian Kimmick Seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Mitigation Funding / Effects on Propagation Plan / Alternatives to Mitigation

B. Morse listed a number of dredging alternatives other than the current

mitigation plan and listed some of the drawbacks to this approach.

He stated that he would like to make a motion that we prorate the permit. We don't go to mitigation. We can dredge this fall and do it without mitigating. We never got to see the mitigation plan.

E. Estey requested a summarized written set of mitigation alternatives for the board to focus on and review.

D. Brunt identified alternatives to the current dredging plan (prorate) and noted the lack of confidence in the mitigation among fishermen, scientists, and marine biologists. Land is in perpetuity.

A. Kmiec asked about the origin of the calculations.

D. Brunt reiterated that we have already been told we can prorrate the permit.

N. Civetta said that doing the mitigation ourselves would make everyone's taxes go up substantially.

D. Parkington proposed we draft a letter to selectboard and TA to explain and use the charter to explain how they can avoid going to town meeting or to a public vote.

D. Mattingly brought up there are two issues here: 1) Proposed mitigation with the Army Corp Plan 2) What are the other options and do we want to go with those instead.

A. Kmiec made a motion the SAB drafts a letter stating we feel this issue should go before the town and be voted on in a town meeting. E. Estey seconded the motion.

Steven Pickard reiterated the motion, to have the shellfish advisory board to send out a letter to ask the selectboard to bring the mitigation to town meeting. We want the information to include section 7 bylaws.

J. Duane said he felt it was important that the issue go to town meeting he just didn't find it necessary to write a letter and therefore he would abstain.

Motion passes 6-0-1.

Future Topics

Propagation plan for the town and cultching (WSD)

Investigate the possibility of having a family permit

Seed expectations and our own production in Wellfleet

Review the current shellfish regulations, the shellfish department's role, and the constable's job description

Discuss Diane Brunt's written plan for alternatives to mitigation for the getting the harbor dredged.

Steven Pickard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ethan Estey seconded. Motion passed 7-0-0.

9:10 meeting adjourned

Next meeting: Monday September 11th at 7:30.