

Shellfish Advisory Board Meeting
Oct 26th 7:30 PM
Town Hall Basement Conference Room

Board Members in attendance: Ethan Estey (acting chair), Nick Sirucek (acting secretary), Adrien Kmiec, Stephen Pickard, Rebecca Taylor, Bradford Morse (Seated), Damien Parkington (Seated)

Announcements & Public Comment

Deb Mattingly raised concerns as a taxpayer about availability of information and documentation from the town
Ethan Estey commented that he spoke to the Town Administrator and that the WSD hire was being paused, Ethan read his Email correspondence with the TA
Tim Hughes raised concerns with the Harbormaster and WSD
Diane Brunt raised concerns with WSD hire, process and need for position
Ralph Bassett made comments on WSD staffing and Rec fishery
Ginny Parker made comments on Town Counsel, if Town Clerk job can be done by WSD
Nemanja Krsmanovic made comments on lack of respect at last meeting; lack of town unity
Andy Koch identified himself as the former Shellfish Constable, gave background on staffing and budget during his tenure

Agenda - Discussion of community concerns relating to the hiring of an additional shellfish warden

Board Discussion:

AK – asked if the concerns with the hire were procedural or a fiscal issue,
NS – read an Email sent to SAB by WSD regarding the hiring process,
AK- spoke of the BOS meeting where the part-time hire was approved,
SP – spoke to SAB not being asked for input on change from part-time to full-time position,
BM – spoke of concerns with hiring process,
DP – spoke to issues of job descriptions, how SAB should weigh in on WSD duties,
SP – commented that the board has been trying to get agenda item re: WSD responsibilities on agenda for months,
AK – agreed that SAB should have input on WSD job responsibilities and function,
DP – commented how SAB doesn't always get asked for input, position might not benefit WSD,
RT – suggested writing letter to TA and BOS about communication issues,
Board discussed possible motions

Public Comments:

Dawn Rickman – identified herself as the former Town Clerk, noted that MGL Ch. 130 Sec. 62 details that administrative paperwork regarding shellfish grants should be handled by Town Clerk
Ginny Parker – commented that she has asked for job descriptions of WSD staff and a meeting
Ben Pickard – raised concerns of job duties and responsibilities mixing/overlapping and how that can cause issues
Deb Mattingly – questioned if town can go forward with and defend the hire, SAB should ask what it wants to see from WSD

Board Discussion:

Board discussed what actions they can take on this issue

Board deliberated possible motions and their wording

Brad Morse made a motion: "To ask the Town Administrator, Select Board, and Wellfleet Shellfish Department to pause the hire of the Deputy Shellfish Constable until we receive clarification of the role of the Town Clerk, Principal Clerk, and their duties in relationship to the Wellfleet Shellfish Department under (MGL) Chapter 130"

Motion 2nd'd, Motion passed 7-0

Additional motions and their wordings discussed by the Board

Brad Morse made a motion: "To ask the Select Board to review all aspects of the hiring process conducted by the Town Administrator and the Shellfish Constable, including job postings, communication with Shellfish Advisory Board, and adherence to the Town Charter."

Motion 2nd'd, Motion passed 5-1-1

Board agreed to send the motions as letters to the Select Board and Town Administrator

Future Topics:

Commercial Permit Requirement for Grant Holders

Town Ice Machine

Proposed definition of "Institution" in Shellfish Regs

Possible discussion of WSD Job Descriptions

Next Meeting:

- Board set next meeting for November 9th at 6:30pm, Town Hall Basement Conference Room