

Wellfleet Shellfish Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes – August 24<sup>th</sup> 2023

Board Members in attendance: Karen Johnson, Nick Sirucek, Adrien Kmiec, Stephen Pickard, Rebecca Taylor, John Duane, Brad Morse (alternate), Damien Parkington (alternate via Zoom)

Audience: Lisa Dexter, Tobin Storer, Margret Jenny, Bob Wallace, Diane Brunt, Randy Williams, Aaron Francis, Ryan Curley, Ralph Basset, Deb Mattingly, Sue Hamar, Denny O'Connell, Helen Miranda Wilson, Alfred Pickard, Bob LaPoint, Jeani Parker, Mike DeVasto, Barbara Austin, John Wallance, Alec LaLone (Does not include Zoom attendees.)

- I. Announcement and Public Comments
  - COASTSWEEP Beach Cleanup #28  
Denny O'Connell asked SAB to co-sponsor the beach cleanup event on Oct 9<sup>th</sup> @ 10 AM, Board agreed
  - KJ gave information about the Lower Cape Outreach Shellfish Harvester Relief Fund for available for Wellfleet Shellfishermen
- II. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes – Aug 7<sup>th</sup> 2023
  - Spelling errors were corrected and minutes were considered approved by the board
- III. Discuss, deliberate, and vote to authorize response to Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Jude Ahern dated July 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Amend August 7<sup>th</sup> motion in order to comply with OML requirements
  - Board discussed the legal requirement to send response to the AG and the complainant
  - Motion by JD: “Approve the letter to be sent to the AG and Jude Ahern via email tomorrow”
  - Motion 2nd'd by NS
  - Motion passed unanimously, 6-0
- IV. Shellfish Regulation changes being considered by the Selectboard on September 5<sup>th</sup>, Discuss, Deliberate and Vote on SAB response
  - Ryan Curley spoke about the proposed regulation changes
  - BM asked RC for minutes of the meeting b/c BOS members and Town Counsel
  - Helen Miranda Wilson asked for clarification on what changes we were discussing, talked about the background of the discussion re: corps/entities, and the process/protocol of changing regulations
  - Mike DeVasto raised concerns about the process. Pointed out that there was a motion and a vote on the matter at the June 8<sup>th</sup> SAB meeting. Said SAB was supposed to review 3 different proposals and did not.
  - Aaron Francis spoke of concerns about the future of the industry, and how rising housing costs will make it harder for the next generation to take over
  - Diane Brunt asked SAB if they could request minutes from BOS
  - Deb Mattingly pointed out that the draft regulation changes were based on an outdated set of regulations
  - NS made a motion: “To advise the Selectboard to only act on the regulation and definition changes necessary to prohibit corporations or other legal entities or institutions from being named to a license, and not vote on other unrelated proposed changes.”
  - Motion 2nd'd by BT, motion passed unanimously. 6-0
- V. Family Permits – Options / Proposed Specifications

- BM spoke of interactions with families picking in
- JD spoke of family members rec fishing together
- AK spoke about concerns of the effect of family permits on revenue
- BT spoke about a price compromise and the catch limit
- JD noted that we just recently raised permit fees
- Diane Brunt suggested family endorsement with no raise in catch limit
- DP suggested donations in lieu of extra fees
- SP suggested we get more input and information from WSD and board members
- BT suggested Junior Non Resident Recreational License, others agreed
- SP made a motion: "To bring this issue to the next meeting and ask all of WSD for input, including summer officers" 2nd'd by BT. Motion passed unanimously, 6-0

#### VI. Future Topics

- Further discussion on Family Permits
- Cultching
- WSD Responsibilities
- JD suggested more involvement from Recreational Shellfishermen
- DP talked about seed availability, and the need to review the use of fertilizers/pesticides in town and concerns of their effect on water quality
- Helen Wilson suggested contacting the Non-Resident Taxpayers Assc for more input from recreational harvesters
- BM also wants to see action on pesticides/fertilizers
- Bob Wallace spoke about fertilizer nitrogen loading issue
- Mike DeVasto asked about nitrogen issue as it relates to Herring River Restoration Project
- Helen Wilson said she believes that nitrogen mitigation isn't part of the HR Restoration
- Ryan Curley spoke to how HR Restoration project has aspects that deals with runoff, but nothing specifically with nitrogen loading, especially re: Golf Course

Next SAB Meeting, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 at ACC

Meeting called to adjourn at 8:43 pm