

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 4:30PM
Edgartown Public Library

Present: Chair – Christian Thornton, Madeline Fisher, Ryan Smith,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Rob Morrison, Jason Mallory,
Others: Clinton Fisher, Levi Flanders, Steve Kuehne,
Recorder – Marni Lipke

The meeting was called to order at 4:31PM. (*Recorder's Note: discussion has been summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.*)

MINUTES

• **CHRISTIAN THORNTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 5, 2019 MINUTES: MADELINE FISHER AND RYAN SMITH SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

CONSTABLE'S & DEPUTIES' REPORT

- Scalping was fairly good with fisherman catching about 18 limits a day in about 3 hours.
- Staff had finished Major's Cove Oyster Farm air-drying and winter shut down, removing buoys and putting cages on long lines.
- Otherwise they were working on boat maintenance.
- **IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE SHELLFISH COMMITTEE TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO CLOSE THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CAPE POGUE GUT TO COMMERCIAL SHELLFISHING, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE EELGRASS BEDS.**
- Shellfish Constable Paul Bagnall brought the Committee concerns on Cape Pogue Gut tourist season boat traffic to the Marine Advisory Committee meeting (see 11/5/19 Minutes p.2). Various options were discussed including forbidding all anchorage, however it was agreed that both Harbormaster and The Trustees Of Reservation needed to step up enforcement.
- Edgartown Great Pond was opened Saturday November 16th and was still open. Paul Bagnall attended a Selectmen meeting that included Emily Reddington and a Pond Association Board member discussion on scheduling of the Pond openings.

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2019-2020 BAY SCALLOP & OYSTER SEASONS

The Hearing was declared open at 4:38PM.

- There was general agreement that the scallop season would only last a few more weeks.
- There was a request to open the Sengekontacket oyster season in early December.
- Fishermen could commercially fish scallops and oysters on the same day.
- Staff proposed changing to a count limit to promote taking larger, more marketable oysters, while discouraging small oyster takings to foster better sets (see 2/6/18 Minutes p.1-2).

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
November 19, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

• RYAN SMITH MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 4:50PM;
CHRISTIAN THORNTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED
UNANIMOUSLY.

Actions To Be Done:

- December Agendas
- Minutes: 11/19/19
- Jason Bennett License Status

Documents on File:

- Agenda 11/19/19
- 2020 Annual Town Meeting Article (6 p.) 11/20/19

WAIT LIST AS OF 10/1/19

1. Daniel Gilkes	10/4/16	5. Evan & Andrea Donnelly	9/19/17
2. Micah Agnoli	6/21/17	6. Clinton Fisher	9/19/17
3. Adam Castro	9/5/17	7. Lila Fischer	1/16/18
4. Noah Scheffer	9/5/17	8. Liam Cosgrove	9/17/19