

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 4:30PM
Edgartown Town Hall

Present: Chair - Ryan Smith, Donald Benefit, Coop Gilkes,
Christian Thornton,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Pete Jackson, Rob Morrison,
Others: Dave Berube, Clinton Fisher, Sandy Fisher Sr, Gus Leaf,
Recorder - Marni Lipke

The meeting was called to order at 4:37PM.

DEPUTIES' & CONSTABLE'S REPORT

• Bay Scallop Season Update

Scalloping was winding down. Yesterday was the first freeze. There were five to six boats out per day but limits were the exception. Violations for seed, lateness and hidden compartments were up to eight for the year—twice the usual amount. Staff recommended closing Cape Pogue January 15th—enough time to request Selectmen approval and 48 hour posting. Wholesale price had hit a high of \$31.

- As there had not yet been a hard blow, fishermen suggested a possible re-opening in March when the some adults concealed in the grass would be better exposed. Staff confirmed this could be a possibility.

• **CHRISTIAN THORNTON MOVED TO CLOSE THE CAPE POGUE SCALLOP SEASON JANUARY 15, 2016, WITH A POSSIBLE OPENING MARCH 7, TO MARCH 31, 2016 PENDING INVESTIGATION AND RECOMMENDATION BY STAFF; DONALD BENEFIT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

• There was some oystering in Sengekontacket but the market was currently a little soft, although this should change as it got colder.

NEW BUSINESS

• Town Meeting Articles

All Shellfish Warrant articles were in the draft Warrant, although an expansion of the third deputies hours was deducted from the summer help budget, so Shellfish Constable Paul Bagnall would speak to the usual summer staff.

• Financial Advisory Committee Meeting (See below: Meetings & Actions.)

The FinCom had schedule the Shellfish Budget hearing.

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There was no word from the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) on 2016 season vibrio measures. The previous discussion on possible measures and issues was reviewed (see 12/1 & 15/15 Minutes):

- Katama and Duxbury specific icing parameters;
- 48 hr. refrigeration to retard/reduce vibrio count;
- distributor versus farmer regulations;
- trace-ability resulting in finger pointing.

Meetings/Events

- Edg. FinCom - 4:00PM Thursday, January 7, 2016 at Town Hall
- Edg. Shellfish - 4:30PM Tuesdays, January 19, & February 2, 2016 at Town Hall

ADJOURNMENT

• **CHRISTIAN THORNTON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:05PM;
DONALD BENEFIT AND COOP GILKES SECONDED; MOTION
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Actions To Be Done :

- Paul/Ryan - meet at 4PM 1/7/16 for FinCom Shellfish FY17 Budget discussion
- Ryan/Christian - finish Town Report and email to Kristy Rose 1/6/16
- February Agenda - 12/15/15 and 1/5/16 Minutes
- March Agenda - check Cape Pogue grass for scallops.

Documents on File:

- Agenda 1/6/16