

**Edgartown Shellfish Committee**  
**Tuesday, March 1, 2016, 4:30PM**  
**Edgartown Town Hall**

Present: Chair - Ryan Smith, Les Baynes, Coop Gilkes  
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Rob Morrison,  
Others: David Berube, Ellen Kaplan,

The meeting was called to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Abutter Ellen Kaplan reported that an application for a second pier on the Wrigley property (MV Ocean, LLC.) would come before the Planning Board at their March 15th meeting. The discussion covered:
  - a 2011 Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) advisory to declare it a commercial marina;
  - Edgartown Harbor policy discouraging two piers on the same property;
  - the area included both quahog and scallop beds.
- **IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE EDGARTOWN SHELLFISH COMMITTEE TO DRAFT A LETTER TO THE PLANNING BOARD PENDING A SITE VISIT.**

**DEPUTIES' & CONSTABLE'S REPORT**

- Sengekontacket Pond oystering was winding down, and oysters were harder to get. It would close at dawn Friday. Edgartown Great Pond oyster season would open at dawn on Monday. The Pond was very high and a cut was scheduled for around March 15th.

**OLD BUSINESS**

• **Cape Pogue Bay Scallop Season Update**

The matter was argued at some length as to whether to close it, leave areas open, or open it on a week-to-week basis. Drags showed about 85 adults to 160 seed on a two-bushel tow. While this opening would allow fishermen some income it would further damage the bottom especially if the Pond were re-opened rather than just new areas where the grass had blown away. Fishermen caused the most damage in low years, by dragging sensitive areas in an attempt to catch limits.

- **LES BAYNES MOVED TO OPEN CAPE POGUE IN POSTED AREAS ONLY ON A WEEK TO WEEK BASIS TO END NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2016, SUBJECT TO CLOSURE AT THE DISCRETION OF STAFF; RYAN SMITH SECONDED; MOTION FAILED: 2 AYES—LES BAYNES, RYAN SMITH; 2 NAYS—DONALD BENEFIT, COOP GILKES, 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

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- The Committee nonetheless agreed to move forward as long as staff was comfortable with close monitoring.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Now that the ice was gone the Committee asked all aquaculture farmers to move out of the Narrows and back to their lease plots. It was hoped that an established policy would equalize next year's winter moves. The Committee saluted Jack Blake for his pioneering aquaculture work and strong policy advocacy.

**Meetings/Events**

- DMF Vibrio Forum - 11:00AM - 1:00PM Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at Town Hall
- Edg. Aquaculture on Vibrio - 4:00PM Sunday, March 13, 2016 at Atria
- Edg. Shellfish - 4:30PM Tuesdays, March 15, & April 5, 2016 at Town Hall
- Annual & Special Town Meeting - 7:00PM, Tuesday, April 12, 2016

**ADJOURNMENT**

- **LES BAYNES MOVED TO ADJOURN; COOP GILKES SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Actions To Be Done:**

- Paul/Ryan - site visit and possible letter to Planning Board re: Wrigley pier.
- Paul/Ryan - put Aquaculture winter policy on agendas

**Documents on File:**

- Agenda 3/1/16