

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, June 16, 2015, 4:30PM
Edgartown Town Barn

Present: Chair - Ryan Smith, Les Baynes, Christian Thornton,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Rob Morrison, Pete Jackson,
Others: Noah Scheffer, Roy Scheffer,
Recorder - Marni Lipke

The meeting was called to order at 4:43PM.

COMMERCIAL, FAMILY, AQUACULTURE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

- LES BAYNES MOVED TO ADD SON NOAH SCHEFFER TO ROY SCHEFFER'S AQUACULTURE LEASE FOR LOT K8; CHRISTIAN THORNTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

MINUTES

- LES BAYNES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 19, 2015 MINUTES: CHRISTIAN THORNTON SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

DEPUTIES' & CONSTABLE'S REPORT

- This year's Major's Cove oyster crop was looking good. The family areas were getting full so staff was planning to expand into Chappaquiddick near the Dike Bridge or in Caleb's Pond. They suggested the Committee consider allowing commercial oystering to keep up with supply.
- Edgartown Great Pond was loaded with seed especially at the west end where the water was fresher, but was also infested with shell disease.
- The Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group (MVSG) would be delivering quahogs and seed shortly. Flatbreads was sponsoring a MVSG donation night.
- The steamers had harder shells from the harsh winter and might do better than previous tries digging in by late July or early August—with the hopes of a natural set.

OLD BUSINESS

- Vibrio Summer Testing Plan

Testing showed most individual oysters below the detectable range and those where Vibrio was detected were on the very low side of scale. There was a temperature gage in the water and a soil sample would be taken every Monday. Staff was monitoring the impact of the severe winter and the Norton Point breach closing.

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• Chappaquiddick Nursery Update

The Nursery was doing well with the new waterline. Staff would put all the animals out by the beginning of next week. Summer deputies: Paul Shultz, Ralph Savory and Ralph Peckam had started work. The Friends of Sengekontacket intern, Kallen Sullivan was working with the staff two days a week, and with the Oak Bluffs Shellfish Dept. three days a week—it was good to have an extra set of hands to help out.

NEW BUSINESS

• Leland Schifter -The matter had been mentioned to the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) but was on hold pending the transition to the new Director.

• End of FY15 Update

The Department had \$9,248 left but was planning to spend it all before the end of the Fiscal Year, likewise the \$8,837 Shellfish Program money. Staff was looking at trailers (see 11/5/14 Minutes p. 3) for under \$5,000.

- Quahogs for relay were being purchased from Jim Hingham, but he was overburdened with demand and could only partially fill orders. The relay was set for October. Family relay areas were chosen for easy access for residents and for staff to back down a loader.
- Rob Morrison suggested that one-week licenses be sold at tackle stores, to relieve the pressure on Town Hall and increase residents' and tourist convenience.

Meetings/Events

- Edg. Shellfish - 4:30PM Tuesdays, July 21, & August 18, 2015 at Town Hall

ADJOURNMENT

• **RYAN SMITH MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:15PM; LES BAYNES SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Actions To Be Done :

- Paul - contact BOH/DMF re: faulty temperature gage.
- Paul - ask Town Hall re: Selling weekly shellfish licenses at tackle stores.
- **July 21, 2015, Agenda**
 - Approve 4/21/15, 5/5/15 & 6/16/15 Draft Minutes

Documents on File:

- Agenda 6/16/15