

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 7:00PM
Edgartown Town Hall

Present: Acting Chair – Ryan Smith Les Baynes, Coop Gilkes,
Shellfish Dept. Warren Gaines,
Others Marni Lipke – Recorder

Call meeting to order 4:53PM.

MINUTES

• LES BAYNES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 18, 2014, APRIL 1, 2014, AND APRIL 15, 2014 MINUTES; COOP GILKES SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.

DEPUTIES' & CONSTABLE'S REPORT

- Marine Biologist and Constable Paul Bagnall was away and Deputy Constable Rob Morrison was under the weather.
- The Chappaquiddick Nursery was all set and ready to go (see below).
- Deputy Constable Warren Gaines went to the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) and Dept. of Public Health meeting on oysters (see 4/15/14 Minutes p. 1) and reported briefly on the new regulations effective from May 19 to October 19, involving:
 - good coolers as a necessity,
 - substantial paperwork tracking the shellfish from water to table,
 - a 2 hour time limit on air time, if air drying then a return to water for 14 days or if harvesting, removal to an icing cooler or water vat.

The new Environmental Police Officer (EPO) would enforce the new rules.

- The Edgartown Great Pond opening closed Sunday April 27th after about 4 weeks. There was still some washover and it should be easy to open it again at the end of May if deemed appropriate. A good set of little oysters could be seen all along the rocks.
- The gas line and tank were stolen from the Department whaling boat left overnight in Great Pond and the same week the gas tank from the Department boat in Sengekontacket was also stolen. This was a new problem, and staff would run cables through the tanks and try to mark them.

OLD BUSINESS

Leland Shifter Water Sampling Agreement – See below: Actions.

Chappaquiddick Nursery

The pumps were in and running and both fresh and salt water pipes would be finished tomorrow.

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Middle Flats Aquaculture Area Update

- Ryan Smith and the Scheffers' received negative findings from the Conservation Commission (see 10/1/13, 11/5/13 & 2/18/14 Minutes p. 1) and the matter had been passed on to Gerry Moles of the DMF, for the final hurdle. Donald Benefit was concerned about conching in the area but it was noted that conchers fished throughout the Katama Bay oyster farm area.

- There was a discussion on structures/piers (for example off the Chappaquiddick Nursery platform) as good tools to reduce aesthetic objections to farms and for shellfishers and fishermen. The Oak Bluffs fishing pier was a great success that Edgartown should consider copying.

Meetings/Events

- Edg. Shellfish - **4:30PM**, Tuesdays, May 20, 2014 at the Town Hall
- Edg. Shellfish - **4:30 PM**, June 3, 2014, July 1, 2014, August 5, 2014 at the Town Barn

ADJOURNMENT

• LES BAYNES MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:20PM; COOP GILKES SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Actions To Be Done:

- Chair/Paul -bring Shifter letter up at next Selectmen meeting
- and to the MVC follow-up committee.
- Ryan - let Coop know when and if you see eels.

May 20th Agenda

- Minutes: 5/6/14
- Reorganization
- Second Reading of Middle Flats Lot Policy
- Edgartown Great Pond Opening Update
- Discussion on moving the checkpoint to the Chappaquiddick Nursery

Ongoing Actions

- Paul- attend Dredge Committee meetings as possible.

Documents on file:

- Agenda 5/6/14