

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, October 7, 2014, 4:30PM
Edgartown Town Hall

Present: Chair - Ryan Smith, Christian Thornton,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Rob Morrison
Others: Kati Johnson, Sarah McLane, Thomas Rogers, Mack Sauer,
Nicholas Viera, David Viera,
Marni Lipke - Recorder

There was no quorum.

COMMERCIAL, FAMILY, AQUACULTURE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

- Pending confirmatory vote Chair Ryan Smith signed commercial shellfishing license applications for Kati Johnson, Sarah McLane, and Nicholas Viera,
- The check-out would be at the Chappaquiddick Nursery. Staff estimated the season would limp along to 4,000 bushels—about 35 boats getting 50 limits a day.

DEPUTIES' & CONSTABLE'S REPORT

- The Committee should discuss and vote on an additional position. The Department staff had been stable for almost 20 years, and duties had increased—seeding: quahogs, scallops, oysters, and the quahog relay, water testing, the Major's Cove Project, the Chappaquiddick Nursery, enforcing 1,000 licenses, industry changes, etc.
- The Quahog Relay supplier kept putting the Department off from week to week so there had only been one 60 bushel run.
- Since half the Massachusetts vibrio cases were from Katama Bay, Shellfish Biologist and Constable Paul Bagnall was working with the University of New Hampshire (UNH) staff and lab, (the same who did the DNA/ID testing (see 12/18/07 Minutes p. 2). This was a local voluntary proactive move with a tentative spending ceiling was \$5,000.
- 24 Samples were randomly divided into two batches, one of which tested at 2400 organisms per 100 mg. and the other at 150. An unfortunate 3-day transport lapse resulted in the samples being only 20° C (the same as the water temperature). Next they would be tested for the vibrio strains causing human illness (TDH and TRH).
- The Deputies finished quahog seeding and were happily shifting oysters and planting steamers in Sengekontacket and Katama. They dumped 12-15 cages (at 2 totes per cage) of scallops and hoped to move all of this year's Major's Cove oysters into 5/8 in. mesh bags by winter. As usual they were also checking Family Scallop season licenses and reported slow digging. Families greatly enjoyed the Major's Cove Project oysters but it was unlikely to generate more licenses. There was a brief discussion on how to publicize the investment return on the Major's Cove Project.

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ADJOURNMENT

Members left at around 5:00PM.

Meetings/Events

- Edg. Shellfish - 4:30 PM, Tuesdays, October 21, & November 4, 2014 - Town Hall

Actions To Be Done:

- All - talk up and contact press (MV Times) re: Majors Cove oyster harvest.
- Paul - request Shellfish staffing on the 10/27/14 Selectmen agenda.
- Paul/Ryan - invite Leland/Shifter to Edgartown Shellfish Committee meeting.
- (*Invite Edgartown Marine Advisory Board Chair to attend.*)

October/November Agenda

- Minutes: 9/2/14, 9/16/14, Notes: 10/7/14
- Confirmatory vote on Commercial Shellfish Applications
- Budget/salary discussion on Major's Cove Oyster Project position
- Vibrio/UNH Update

Ongoing Actions

- Ryan/Paul - ask Selectmen and Ed Handy to ask State (Jack Shephard) re: rebuilding Katama public access ramp, and moving 2 big rock obstacles.
- Paul- attend Dredge Committee meetings as possible.

Documents on file:

- Agenda 10/7/14
- Sign In Sheet 10/7/14