

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, October 30, 2012, 7:00PM
Edgartown Town Hall

Present: Chair - Jack Blake, Donald Benefit, Ralph Case, Cooper Gilkes,
Ryan Smith,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Rob Morrison,
Others: Ryan Amaral,
Marni Lipke - Recorder

The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM.

• MINUTES

• **COOPER GILKES MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 16, 2012 MINUTES: RALPH CASE SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—JACK BLAKE** due to absence.

DEPUTIES/CONSTABLES' REPORT

• Fishing peaked at 40 limits on Thursday and fishermen were getting limits in a reasonable amount of time. However, reports indicated there was not enough seed showing this year to drive a commercial season for next year. Despite Hurricane Sandy there were no major washups and the buoys marking the closed area in Katama held up.

OLD BUSINESS

Estuaries Program

• The presentation by the Joint Committee on Sengekontacket was well received by Selectmen although they delegated tasks back to the Board of Health, Wastewater Operator, etc.
• Shellfish Warden and Biologist Paul Bagnall and Chair Jack Blake talked to the Selectmen about the Oyster Propagation Project (see 10/2/12 Minutes p. 4 and below: Budget FY2014). Jack Blake would check his experimental cage around November 15th to measure growth before returning it to the bottom to winter over.

Sengekontacket Closure Update

• The Pond was closed for the storm although scallops were exempt, however as the New York Fulton Fish Market was shut down due to flooding and power outages sales were severely curtailed. There was a brief discussion on sea scallops now being priced above bay scallops.

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NEW BUSINESS

Aquaculture Regulations

- Paul Bagnall would contact the Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) about a hearing on boundaries and the new regulations (see below: Actions).
- Sandy Fisher, both father and son, had moved their equipment within their boundaries although they had two upwellers on a single mooring (against Harbormaster directive).

Budget Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14)

- Although the Selectmen had not yet announced a timeline, standard practice was for Departments to submit their budgets in mid-November.
- This year the Shellfish Department would ask for a separate article to fund the Sengekontaktet Oyster Propagation Project (see above: Estuaries Program), along with a grant application to Friends of Sengekontaktet (FOS). The Committee discussed the logistics timeline to purchase and install equipment.
- Jack Blake had designed a tidal powered double upweller (cost about \$8,0000) and had some surplus bins that would reduce the price. He suggested the Department apply for a SeaMac grant to help fund the construction (see below Actions).

COMMERCIAL, FAMILY, AQUACULTURE LICENSE APPLICATIONS

- The Committee expressed its disappointment in license applicant no-shows.
- **PENDING NOTARIZATION IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE EDGARTOWN SHELLFISH COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE CHAIR JACK BLAKE TO SIGN THE COMMERCIAL ALL SPECIES SHELLFISHING LICENSE APPLICATION FOR RYAN AMARAL.**

Meetings

- **Edg. Shellfish – 7:00PM Tuesdays, November 20, December 4, 2012 at Town Hall**

ADJOURNMENT

- **RALPH CASE MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:41PM; COOP GILKES SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Actions To Be Done :

- All – re-number and edit the Aquaculture Regulations in preparation for public hearing.
- Paul – print out Selectmen Aquaculture Regulations for Committee review.
- Paul – finalize and record all GPS coordinates with MVC Chris Sidell
- Jack – email SeaMac RFP to Paul Bagnall
- Paul – apply for SeaMac grant—deadline 11/16/12 (w/ private/public partnership).

Documents on file:

- Agenda 10/30/12
- Shellfish License – Amaral