

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 4:30PM
by Zoom Cloud Conference Due to the Covid-19 Crisis

Present: Acting Chair – Ryan Smith, Les Baynes, Madeline Fisher, Nick Turner,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Jason Mallory, Rob Morrison,
Others: Harbormaster Charlie Blair, Liam Crossgroves, Recorder – Marni Lipke,

The meeting was called to order at 4:40PM.

(Recorder's Note: discussion has been summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)

NEW BUSINESS (See 11/5/19 Minutes p.2)

- Harbormaster Charlie Blair thanked the Shellfish Department staff for filling in for his staff.
- Cape Pogue had become a real problem with upwards of 169 boats a day (about 80% of them non-residents), with unacceptable, irresponsible behavior, and serious environmental damage to shellfish and eelgrass habitat. Despite many committee meetings partnering with The Trustees of Reservation (TTOR) the Selectmen suspended summer 2020 remediation due to fears over the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. However it was clear after the 2020 season that the situation was now entirely out of control and dangerous.

- District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) restrictions protecting the environment were in place and a joint Planning Board meeting was scheduled on the issue. Charlie Blair asked Shellfish Committee support to enforce no anchoring in Cape Pogue and headway speed only, to protect not only the prime Edgartown scallop beds but also quahoging and other habitat as well. The Shellfish Committee hoped that Edgartown residents could continue to use of the Pond.

- **LES BAYNES MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT CAPE POGUE DCPC GUIDELINES BE FOLLOWED AND ENFORCED, AND TO EXPRESS SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT THE SHELLFISH AND EELGRASS HABITAT; RYAN SMITH SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MADELINE FISHER—AYE, LES BAYNES—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, NICK TURNER—AYE.**

OLD BUSINESS

Middle Flats Aquaculture Update

The short Selectmen hearing on Liam Crossgrove's middle flats application went well. Next steps were to obtain a negative finding from the Conservation Commission and to contact Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) as to lot status. In view of heavy boat traffic, it was important to clearly mark the lot corners. Mr. Crossgroves expected to have a raft in the summer for air-drying.

Fy2020 (FY20) Close Out

Shellfish returned a few thousand dollars to the Town to enhance Free Cash reserves. There was a Department Head meeting tomorrow on the FY22 budget.

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CONSTABLES & DEPUTIES' REPORT

Scalloping was going well, starting in the Cape Pogue Gut and now moving to other locations. Scallops were selling at \$20 per pound and the season was expected to last until Christmas. Fishermen were complying with regulations.

- Thomas "Boise" Rogers was working his lot and expanding a little.

NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Permission for Paul Bagnall to Sign Off on Bills & Payroll

• **LES BAYNES MOVED TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT SHELLFISH WARDEN PAUL BAGNALL TO SIGN SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT INVOICES, BILLS, PAYROLL, CORRESPONDENCE, GRANT APPLICATIONS, ETC. AS NEEDED IN THE COURSE OF NORMAL BUSINESS; RYAN SMITH SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MADELINE FISHER—AYE, LES BAYNES—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, NICK TURNER—AYE.**

Vibrio Update

A State Zoom conference and DMF presentation projected the same vibrio protocols as last year. There was a total of 8 Katama cases this summer but the timing spread and delay in reporting forestalled a closing. The new regional representative agreed that reporting timing had to be reduced.

- There was no further news on the possible new mooring/aquaculture restrictions.

MINUTES

• **RYAN SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 20, 2020 MINUTES AS AMENDED: NICK TURNER SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 4 AYE, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MADELINE FISHER—AYE, LES BAYNES—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, NICK TURNER—AYE.**

Meetings/Events

• Edg. Shellfish - 4:30PM, Tuesdays, December 1 & 15, 2020 by Zoom

• Dredge - 4:00PM, Thursdays, by Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

• **RYAN SMITH MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:17PM; LES BAYNES SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MADELINE FISHER—AYE, LES BAYNES—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, NICK TURNER—AYE.**

continued

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Actions To Be Done:

- Paul – send letter to Planning Board to support enforcement of Cape Pogue DCPC.
- Paul/Liam Crossgroves – contact Jane Varkonda re: ConCom hearing
- Contact DMF re: status of Middle Flats lots.

Documents on File:

- Agenda 11/17/20
- Hagerty memo: re: 2022 Budget/2021 ATM & STM Calendar 10/15/20