

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 4:30PM
by Zoom Cloud Conference Due to the Covid-19 Crisis

Present: Chair – Christian Thornton, David Faber, Madeline Fisher, Ryan Smith,
Nick Turner,
Shellfish Dept. Paul Bagnall, Warren Gaines, Jason Mallory, Rob Morrison,
Others: Harbormaster Charlie Blair, Recorder – Marni Lipke,

The meeting was called to order at 4:32PM. Chair Christian Thornton saluted Shellfish Constable and Biologist Paul Bagnall's bittersweet final day and meeting before retirement, and welcomed the new Constable Rob Morrison on his first day tomorrow.
(Recorder's Note: discussion has been summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.)

NEW CONSTABLE'S & DEPUTIES' REPORT

- There have been up to 12 fishermen getting limits as weather permitted, including a couple of double limits.
- Weather forestalled yesterday's oyster season opening, and the markets were probably not yet ready.
- The Blake/Gilkes aquaculture raft broke loose in the high storm water level. Staff retrieved it and Dan Gilkes collected it.
- New Shellfish Constable Rob Morrison reported he was learning the ropes asking Paul Bagnall a lot of questions and managing to pay bills. He and Paul Bagnall would continue cleaning out and re-configuring the office and files throughout the month. Town Hall delivered a new computer.
- Rob Morrison recommended Jason Mallory be moved into Morrison's previous 5-day position and the Department advertise to hire for the 4-day position. The Committee expressed their full support.
- After a Covid-spike delay, State shellfish constable classes were re-instated online at no charge.
- The spring \$5,000 oyster buy-back was also on track.

NEW BUSINESS

New Upweller

The Department was awarded the grant for the new upweller and Rob Morrison and Jack Blake were putting materials together.

- The bulk of the meeting recognized Paul Bagnall's 30 year contribution as Shellfish Constable.
 - Committee members and staff spoke of his guidance and dedication to Edgartown, appreciated his work, staff hires and experience, and expressed their pleasure in working with him.
 - Harbormaster Charlie Blair reviewed the Department's enormous progress under his leadership.
 - He was eternally grateful for Shellfish/Harbor cooperation and the many times the Department grabbed their boats to help bail out difficult situations.
 - The Department also helped the Harbormaster by looking after all professional fishermen, checking to see that they were in each night, which not every Town did.
 - Paul Bagnall built the Shellfish Department from nothing, instituting the quahog relays so popular with residents, as well as predator controls and other programs.

- Paul Bagnall felt he was lucky to have gone away to college and come back to work for his hometown in the field of his choice. He described being Constable as a marine biologist's dream and constable's

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nightmare. He thanked the Committee for their commitment and dedication and assured them they were in good hands with Rob Morrison. There were considerable jokes about retirement options, consultant work, and hammocks.

- The Committee hoped to celebrate Paul Bagnall and Les Baynes at a dinner later in the spring.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Hearings

- Paul Bagnall and Rob Morrison would present next year’s budget to the FinCom.
- The Department’s and Committee’s annual reports were finished and submitted.

Meetings/Events

- **Edg. Shellfish – 4:30PM, Tuesdays, February 8 & 22, 2022 by Zoom**
- Dredge – 4:00PM, Thursdays, by Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

• LES BAYNES MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 4:52PM; CHRISTIAN THORNTON SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: NICK TURNER—AYE, MADELINE FISHER—AYE, DAVE FABER—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, CHRISTIAN THORNTON—AYE.

Actions To Be Done: - None

Documents on File:

- Agenda 1/18/22

Katama Aquaculture Lot Wait List

1. Micah Agnoli	6/21/17	5. Adam Thibodeau	11/7/17
2. Adam Castro	9/5/17	6. Lila Fischer	1/16/18
3. Evan & Andrea Donnelly	9/19/17	7. David “Tubby” Medeiros	2/19/19
4. Clinton Fisher	9/19/17	8. Liam Cosgrove	9/17/19

Middle Flats lots votes:

- 11/5/13 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Jeremy Scheffer
 - transferred to Noah.
- 2/18/14 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Ryan Smith & 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Joe Smith
 - Joe Smith transferred to Julia Smith
- 2/2/16** 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Nick Turner & 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Dan
Donnelly
- 8/21/18 1 two-acre Middle Flats to Scott Castro
- 10/20/20 Liam Cosgroves & Sandy Fisher motion to sign Middle Flats applications pending
 Shellfish Constable and Shellfish Committee Chair approval.
- Liam Cosgroves confirms