

Edgartown Shellfish Committee
Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 4:30PM
by Zoom Cloud Conference Due to the Covid-19 Crisis

Present: Chair – Christian Thornton, David Faber, Madeline Fisher, Ryan Smith,
Shellfish Dept. Rob Morrison, Warren Gaines, Jason Mallory,
Others: Jeff LaMarche, Lionel Spiro, Recorder – Marni Lipke,
* Shellfish Committee members who arrived late or left early.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35PM. (*Recorder's Note: discussion has been summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity.*)

CONSTABLE'S & DEPUTIES' REPORT

- About 5-6 boats were scalloping and the same number were oystering in Sengekontacket Pond.
- The Department's second upweller was going well and staff was starting to prepare for spring.

Scallop Season

Oyster Season

- Constable Rob Morrison recommended extending the scallop season in the outer harbor which was not showing seed. Weather allowing, fishermen could take advantage of high prices (\$25/lb.) and surveys showed there would be no negative impact. He had consulted Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) biologist John Mendes during the recent water quality sampling. The DMF preferred early notification and usually ran a survey before granting extension permission.
 - Rob Morrison also proposed a commercial oyster season in Edgartown Great Pond after the cut dropped the water level and increased salinity. The harvest would help maintain the shellfish population. The Committee attested there was good demand for oysters and was enthusiastic about increased opportunity for fishermen.
 - **RYAN SMITH MOVED TO:**
 - **CLOSE THE CAPE POGUE SCALLOP SEASON APRIL 1, 2022,**
 - **EXTEND THE SCALLOP SEASON IN ALL OTHER LOCATIONS UNTIL MAY 1, 2022,**
 - **OPEN AN EDGARTOWN GREAT POND OYSTER SEASON FROM APRIL 1, 2022 TO MAY 1, 2022, HARVESTING ONLY WITH RAKES AND POLES, NO DRAGGING OR JETTING ALLOWED;**
 - **EXTEND THE SENGEKONTACKET POND OYSTER SEASON TO MAY 1, 2021;**
- DAVID FABER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: CHRISTIAN THORNTON—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, MADELINE FISHER—AYE, DAVID FABER—AYE.**

OLD BUSINESS

(See below: Actions.)

- Rob Morrison was in contact with both the Dredge Committee and the Edgartown Great Pond Foundation (see Minutes 2/1/22 p.2-3, & 2/15/22 p.1-2), and would tour the Great Pond delta and sluiceway with Dredge Committee representatives. Members thanked him for his hard work.
- He had submitted the Katama dredge proposal to the Dredge Committee.

**Edgartown Shellfish Committee
March 1, 2022**

SHELLFISH PERMITS AND AQUACULTURE LICENSES

The Committee welcomed Edgartown resident Jeff LaMarche, who was hoping to get a commercial shellfish permit working with Dave Berube. The Committee informed him that once the application was reviewed and signed he had 24 hours to submit it with payment to Select Board Administrative Assistant Kristi Rose. Rob Morrison asked him to review the Shellfishing Regulations.

- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE EDGARTOWN SHELLFISH COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE CHAIR CHRISTIAN THORNTON OR SHELLFISH CONSTABLE ROB MORRISON TO SIGN THE COMMERCIAL SHELLFISHING LICENSE APPLICATION FOR JEFF LAMARCHE ON BEHALF OF THE SHELLFISH COMMITTEE.

MINUTES

- **RYAN SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 15, 2022 MINUTES AS WRITTEN: MADELINE FISHER SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 4 AYE, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT: CHRISTIAN THORNTON—ABSTAIN, DAVE FABER—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, MADELINE FISHER—AYE.**

Meetings/Events

- **Edg. Shellfish – 4:30PM, Tuesdays, March 15, & April 5, 2022 by Zoom**
- Dredge – 4:00PM, Thursdays, by Zoom

ADJOURNMENT

- **CHRISTIAN THORNTON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 4:51PM; DAVID FABER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: CHRISTIAN THORNTON—AYE, DAVE FABER—AYE, RYAN SMITH—AYE, MADELINE FISHER—AYE.**

Documents on File:

- Agenda 3/1/22
- Morrison letter re: Katama Bay Proposed Dredging

Actions To Be Done:

- Rob – re-email members (& Marni) letter to Dredge Committee.
- submit scallop & oyster season recommendation to Selectmen & DMF.
- Rob/Christian - review and sign LaMarche commercial license application.
- Christian – re-send Town Report to Kristi Rose.

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

continued

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3

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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 Crosgroves & Sandy Fisher motion to sign Middle Flats applications pending
 Shellfish Constable and Shellfish Committee Chair approval.
- Liam Crosgroves confirmed.