

**Edgartown Shellfish Committee**  
**Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 4:30pm**  
**Via Zoom**

Present: Christian Thornton, David Faber, Ryan Smith, Madeline Fisher\*  
Shellfish Dept. Rob Morrison, Warren Gaines, Chuck Fisher  
Others: Juliet Mulinare (Recorder)

The meeting of the Edgartown Shellfish Committee was called to order at 4:30pm.

MINUTES

David made a motion to approve the 10/18/22 draft minutes, seconded by Ryan. No further discussion, vote taken and approved, 3-0. Madeline not present at time of vote.

David made a motion to approve the 9/6/22 draft minutes, seconded by Ryan. No further discussion, vote taken and approved unanimously, 3-0. Madeline not present at time of vote.

SHELLFISH PERMITS & AQUACULTURE LICENSES

Rob presented two commercial shell fishing applications for approval: Morris and BenDavid. Both applications are complete.

Motion placed on the floor by Christian to approve both commercial shell fishing applications. Ryan seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and approved unanimously, 3-0.

DEPUTY'S REPORT

Scalloping is going very well, people are bringing in their limits in around 3 hours in both ponds and there were over 35 limits brought in today. The fishermen are happy. Christian asked what the price per pound is; Warren said he's not sure but Nantucket's season is opening today, which may affect the price.

PROPAGATION EFFORT & RECREATIONAL SCALLOP SEASON UPDATE

Rob said that there is a lot of weed in Cape Pogue and a storm would be helpful in moving some of that around. Dip-netting in Senge is going well. They are putting the final touches on the oyster farm in Senge. The propagation effort is continuing, they have 20 cages of scallops to plant. Rob feels that the new techniques are working well.

REVIEW OF SHELLFISH REGULATIONS

Rob discussed some of the existing regulations that he would like to review and update including the ability of commercial fishermen in other towns to obtain recreational licenses in Edgartown. He said that it allows fishermen to be in Edgartown waters whenever they want and limiting this potential would protect the resource for Edgartown residents. The Committee decided to wait until all members are present to discuss any changes in the regulations.

SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT OUTREACH

Rob said he spoke to Mr. Rogers about neglecting his equipment and the status of his oyster farm. Mr. Rogers told him that he's in transition and will come to the next meeting to discuss his intentions with the Committee.

Rob said he has been thinking about ways to connect with the community and enhance people's awareness of the shell fishing industry on island. Chuck had the idea to provide quahogging equipment for people to rent at the Library. The Committee discussed summer camps and collaborating with other island education groups to put on events or presentations that provide information to the community.

Rob asked the Committee to designate a representative to the Harbor Management Plan Committee that is being formed to update the Harbor Management Plan. The updates include addressing climate-related

impacts and the conflict between enjoyment of recreation and protection of natural resources. After brief discussion, the Committee agreed that Madeline would be the Shellfish representative.

At 4:56pm, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded. No further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously, 4-0

The next meeting will be held live at the Edgartown Library on November 15, 2022.  
Minutes submitted by Juliet Mulinare.