

Shellfish and Waterways Improvement Advisory Committee - March 14th, 2023

In attendance: A. Mathison, S. Phillips, C. Poosikian, P. Przygocki, J. Quigley, N. Sears, D. Slack. Absent: B. Amaru, M. Carroll, D. Edmunds,

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Review of minutes:

Motion to approve March 2023 minutes approved by S. Phillips. Motion approved: 6-0.

Update on Herring Run

- Scott Johnson, Herring Keeper reported that last year the water was at 2.6 ft. In August and September at the run and to let the herring run with no adjustment.
- Drought this year lowered water to levels too low to let fry out
- After hand digging the herring run, fry got out in fall. Dammed up for winter
- Now in March we are at 2.9 feet. The run is clean and we are now waiting for the fish. There are lots of predators. Last year there were many dead herring from raccoons. We are in good shape for this year. Discussed herring trawlers.
- Brad Chase is installing camera on 20th
- Still need counters. Call Rich LEevy County has 9 sections for different time frames to take data
- Harbormaster Nate Sears said the run is healthy with plenty of action but the problems is water depth. Nate discussed fixing fish ladders to keep them working for now. We need to replace fish ladder to allow water to get deeper. There are problems with reconstruction and the town only owns 20'. Natural Resources from fed gov. are eager to help with this project. 75% of construction is from Natural Resources, 100% of design and permitting is on the town. This should go to town voters. Nate has a draft to go in

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Brief Discussion on Shellfish Advisory panel meeting held on 3/2/23

Natural Resources/Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable Report, Nate Sears

- Nate Sears reported that Red Tide has already closed Nauset Marsh. Hemenway and Salt Pond are testing areas for Red Tide. Water cells were seen in the water samplings over 1,000 per million. Shellfishing is stopped. Closures for shellfishing are listed on the homepage/newsblast.
- Rock Harbor fuel tanks are going through permits and ground borings are being sampled. The (2) 1,000 gallon tanks are going to be placed behind Greg Higgins property, above ground.
- Dredging is moving forward at Rock Harbor and is an even split, 50/50 with Eastham. This will be a tight timeframe with offshore disposal. Bids are going out in 1-2 months.
- Nate discussed a Food truck at Rock Harbor. This will need to go to the town and the decision will be made April 5th.
- 2015-2021 Shellfish report was reviewed, showing licenses and catch reports.
- Brief discussion on Oyster and Clam seed and what their future holds. Discussion of 2022 Lonnie's Pond Review of oysters being grown.

Select Board Liaison Report – Mark Mathison

- Not much to report. Items on the warrant were mentioned.

Announcements/ Topics of Future Meetings

- Parking is an ongoing issue and should be discussed

Motion to Adjourn by P. Przygocki, passed 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40