



Shellfish Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Thursday, November 17, 2016
6:00 PM – West Conference Room

Committee Members:

Michael Brown,
Chairman
Charles Adams
John Berrett
Jessica Joyce
Robert Maloney
Richard Thompson
Ralph Oulton
Harland Storey

Town Staff:

Tom Gruber
Charles Rumsey
Milton Calder
Jean Duchesneau

Members Present: Michael Brown, Chairman, Jessica Joyce, Charles Adams, Robert Maloney, Harland Storey
Town Staff: Thomas Gruber, Chief Charles Rumsey, Lt. Calder, Jean Duchesneau
Absent: John Berrett, Ralph Oulton

I. Roll Call & Welcome

Chairman Brown introduced the new Town Staff sitting on the committee: Charles Rumsey, Chief of Police and Jean Duchesneau, recording secretary. Due to committee reorganization, Brenda Moore and Bill Shane will be handing off portions of this committee. John Ryder has resigned from the committee. Pete Thayer of DMR was unable to attend, but sent along some information (attached).

II. Approval of the April 28, 2016 meeting minutes

Motion by Jessica Joyce and seconded by Mr. Adams to accept the minutes as presented.
VOTE: Unanimous

III. License allocations for 2017

Discussion took place as to whether or not to increase the number of licenses; however, it was determined that there just was not enough clams to warrant an increase. There appears to be razor clams, quahogs and oysters (all of which you do not need a license) but for some unknown reason very little clam life.

Motion by Harland Storey and seconded by Robert Maloney to adopt the same number of license allocations and license fees for 2017.

VOTE: Unanimous

IV. Seeding for 2017 and other conservation activities

Jessica Joyce and Michael Brown lead a discussion regarding a seeding program in town. The idea of seeding was brought up last year, but the committee decided not to pursue it at that time.

Jessica suggested the committee revisit the idea of seeding in 2017. Should we decide to go forward with seeding, we would have to make some changes to our ordinance to address the seeding. Michael Brown stated the proposed model would consist of 3 test sites; each site would have 5 nets (30,000 seed per site) for a total of 90,000 seed. The initial investment would be approximately \$3,000.00 to \$5,000.00. The nets would go in early/late April and come out by November. The program would involve a lot of hard work, both the installing and removal of the nets as well as the monitoring aspect. The accessibility of the area for numerous

volunteers would be difficult as well as be a safety concern. There could be a better issues and the seeding project is not a pleasant site to look at.

Water currents, green crabs, pollutants and over sterilization are possible reasons why we have little to no clams here.

Chebeague Island's seeding project was not successful.

An informal poll shows there is an interest in this project. We can put in a place holder for the seed and take the next 6-12 months to make a decision on the project, then have a public hearing on it and follow through with all the necessary steps. Michael Brown will draft an email regarding the project and its status to keep us all informed.

V. Quarterly meeting dates for 2017

Establish a quarterly meeting schedule and have it posted on the website. Our next meeting will be after the New Year.

Per the ordinance, prior to November 1 of each year, the Town Shellfish Conservation Commission, with the approval of the Commissioner of Marine Resources, shall prepare its recommendation to the Town Council of the number of resident and nonresident commercial and recreational shellfish licenses to be made available.

VI. Other Business

All of Cumberland's shoreline is open.

DMR's proposed three changes to our ordinance (223-7B, 223-7C and 223-17, paragraphs 2/3); and DMR attorneys are recommending all municipalities adopt these changes to their municipal ordinances at their next town meeting or charter session.

Motion by Charles Adams and seconded by Jessica Joyce to accept the ordinance with the highlighted changes as written.

VOTE: Unanimous

The Town Council meeting, November 28th is limited to the license allocation and fee aspect of our recommendation. The ordinance would be presented on December 12th.

Mr. Adams has been representing us on the Ocean Access Committee as it relates to shellfish representation to the Broad Cove Reserve Committee. He would like to take a step back from this committee, creating an opening. If you have an interest, talk with Hank and let us know at the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Adams and seconded by Mr. Maloney to adjourn.

VOTE: Unanimous

Time: 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted by,

Jean Duchesneau
Committee Secretary