

Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

***HSAB meeting are video-recorded and
available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube**

Members present: Tom Szydlowski, Dave Bossi, Ginger
Andrews, Peter Brace

Members Absent: Dan Pronk, Andy Lowell, Dave Fronzuto

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept: Tara Riley, Joe Minella

Others: Kona Hosier

CALL TO ORDER

5:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Unanimously approved, 4-0.

Draft minutes of Nov. 16, 2021

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff

Ms. Riley reported that she and her staff began discussing the spawning schedule for 2022. She explained they'll be doing

quahog spawn in March and scallop spawns through the end of August, including working with a few commercial scallopers on a scallop larval release off of Tuckernuck. After that, the hatchery will work with the Nantucket Land Council on eelgrass transplanting.

Ms. Riley is also working with the two yacht clubs and the harbor master to learn their respective pumpout policies while determining how the Marine Department's holding tank dye tablets have been distributed and determine where boats with bathrooms on them are moored in relation to the Horse Shed and Hulbert Avenue in an effort present Nantucket's clean harbor effort to the Division of Marine Fisheries. She added she is trying to develop a convincing argument against the DMF closing these areas to shellfishing on May 1, 2022.

Ms. Riley reported that water quality specialist Thais Fournier is currently working on stormwater treatment and filtering solutions for the harbor.

Ms. Riley reported that there are around 10 commercial scallopers fishing right now, alternating between Nantucket and Madaket harbors. She said that she believes all fishermen are still getting their single limits and that the boat price remaining good is what's keeping these fishermen on the water.

Ms. Riley reported that she and her staff will be monitoring the massive scallop area in Madaket Harbor once a month over the winter. She added that she hopes to move some of this seed to safer harbor areas in the spring.

Mr. Szydlowski asked if she had an update on Ted Lambrecht's oyster lease revocation proceeding. Ms. Riley did not. Mr. Brace reported that the continuation of Mr. Lambrecht's public hearing on the matter with the Select Board is on Dec. 8. He added that he was aware that Mr. Lambrecht seemed to be working hard to remove his oyster cages from the head of the harbor.

Mr. Brace asked how many times scallops can be spawned at the hatchery. Ms. Riley explained that she and her staff mimic the

natural spawning conditions to get the bay scallops to spawn as needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Excessive sand in scallops/Dredging plan – Discussion

No discussion

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

Excessive lawn fertilizer use: Update – Discussion – New information

Mr. Minella explained why he is sponsoring citizen's article at Town Meeting to ban the use of fertilizer on Nantucket.

Ms. Andrews said she's concerned what products are considered fertilizer, is this island and will the ban be enforced. Mr. Minella explained that the ban would be island wide and would be enforced by the Natural Resources Department.

Mr. Szydlowski asked that Mr. Minella's proposal remain on the agenda going forward.

Ms. Andrews noted that similar articles over the years have generated lots of opposition from landscapers at Town Meeting. She added that this article won't be easy to implement or enforce.

Mr. Bossi agreed that this article should remain on the agenda so the HSAB can discuss it more extensively.

Mr. Brace asked Mr. Minella if he's spoken to the island retailers of fertilizer. Mr. Minella said the largest distributors of fertilizers are the freight and trucking companies that service Nantucket.

Mr. Szydlowski said this article is a good way to get this conversation going.

FDA shellfish taking prohibition in mooring fields

Discussed during the NRD report from Ms. Riley.

Water quality testing update and boat holding tank dye tablet distribution

Discussed during the NRD report from Ms. Riley.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Minella's fertilizer-ban article – discussion

Discussed during the first item under Health of the Harbors

Coastal Resilience Advisory Board – Update

Mr. Brace reported on the Coastal Resilience Advisory Board's (CRAC) frustration with the Select Board not adopting the final draft of the Coastal Resilience Plan.

Mr. Brace reminded the board to read through the CRP comment on it so he can pass them on to the committee and the consultant. Ms. Andrews said that Select Board is prone to dragging its feet over that last 20 years.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 4-0, at 5:46 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BnT4JUx4-i4&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg&index=1>

Future Meetings:

Dec. 21 and Jan. 4

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter B. Brace, Secretary