

**Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Via Zoom
*HSAB meeting are video-recorded**

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

Members Absent: Dan Pronk

Marine Dept: Sheila Lucey

Natural Resources Dept: Tara Riley

Others: Kona Hosier, Steve Leinbach

CALL TO ORDER

5:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 6-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of Feb. 1, 2022

Unanimously approved, 6-0

Draft minutes of Feb. 15, 2022

Unanimously approved, 6-0

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Lowell asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Maurice Gibbs.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

Ms. Lucey reported that more than 100 people applied for lifeguard positions for the 2022 season. She added that she is trying to get housing at the former youth hostel.

Ms. Lucey also reported that her Junior Lifeguard Program is really taking off and doing well. She added that one of the main reasons it's working is because local lifeguards already have housing at their homes on island.

Ms. Lucey reported that the Town Pier repairs are coming along well but that replacement of the floating dock system is still being held up because she needs an Army Corps of Engineers permit, which hasn't been issued it yet.

Ms. Lucey reported that she'll be doing a flyover in a Coast Guard helicopter soon to determine the best locations for aids to navigation in all of Nantucket's the harbors.

Ms. Lucey reported that the new marine department building is being put out to bid again because the cost has been revised. She also reported that she's been taking heat from people who think it should be built across the street, adding that it would be very difficult to do her job if it was.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff

Ms. Riley said she'll have catch reports at the next meeting and that new Natural Resources Department (NRD) administrative assistant, Lisa Graves, is working on compiling them.

Ms. Riley reported that she is going to be working with the Nantucket Land Council this summer to harvest, nurture and transplant eelgrass (up in Fifth bend). She added that Emily Molden may attend the next HSAB meeting to further explain how this would work.

Ms. Riley said she is in the process of hiring two interns for the shellfish hatchery's 2022 season.

Ms. Riley reported that she and her crew are still monitoring the large bay scallop seed deposit in Madaket Harbor by doing dredge

tows to get a sense of what's down there. She said she's finding 50 percent of the tows are empty shells because they are on the edge of or in the main channel. Ms. Riley added that she may be getting commercial scallopers to help her move some of the seed for some kind of compensation that she'll come up with at a later date and report back to the HSAB on.

Finally, Ms. Riley said she continued to polish her letter to the state's Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF). She said she needs to meet with Sheila soon to learn from her where all the boats with heads (toilets) in them are moored in the harbor to discern where they are in relation to shellfish beds and she also needs to hear from Cecil French, the DMF's CVA and Big Grant Program Coordinator.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

No comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Excessive sand in scallops/Dredging plan – Discussion

No report

Fertilizer-ban articles – Discussion

Mr. Lowell asked if there was any more discussion on this issue.

Mr. Brace said he'd asked Erika Mooney if the HSAB could comment on this issue at Finance Committee meetings and in the newspaper and that he was waiting to hear back from her.

Mr. Szydlowski and Mr. Bossi said that fertilizer-ban articles were secondary to the Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission's (NP&EDC) current efforts on banning fertilizers.

Mr. Fronzuto said he'd be meeting with Planning Director Andrew Vorce on this for an update this week.

Mr. Szydlowski urged HSAB members to attend the 2022 Candidates Forum on April 30 so the board can ask Planning Board candidates about this issue.

Mr. Brace explained the updated picture on who's pulled candidacy papers for the HSAB. Mr. Lowell said that Mr. Pronk hadn't pulled them yet. Mr. Brace stressed that Andy needed to reach out to Mr. Pronk to get him to do this

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

Excessive lawn fertilizer use: Update – Discussion – New information

Covered in Old Business.

FDA shellfish taking prohibition in mooring fields

Covered in Natural Resources Department Report.

Water quality testing

Mr. Brace asked if anyone knew if the Figawi is happening this year. Mr. Fronzuto and Mr. Szydlowski said it is, but that the sailors wouldn't be racing to Nantucket.

NEW BUSINESS

Design Thinking Workshop – Report: Andy Lowell/Peter Brace

Mr. Lowell and Mr. Brace reported to the board on this event. Mr. Brace stressed the importance of the sediment transport study and how the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee and Coastal Resilience Coordinator Vincent Murphy are making this study a priority.

Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee – Update

No report.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Ms. Andrews suggested writing a letter of support for Ms. Lucey for efforts to keep the new Marine Department building where it is. Mr. Fronzuto said the Army Corps of Engineers require it to be high enough to handle sea level rise during a 100-year storm.

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 6-0, at 6:15 p.m.

YOUTUBE LINK

Future Meetings:

April 5 and April 19

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary