

Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
Meeting trailer at 131 Pleasant St., Nantucket, MA 02554
***HSAB meeting are video-recorded and**
available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube

Members present: Andy Lowell, Dave Bossi, Dave Fronzuto, Peter Brace, Ginger Andrews, Scott Anderson

Members Absent: Stephen Payer

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept: Tara Riley (by written report)

Others: Kona Hosier

CALL TO ORDER

5:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of Jan. 17, 2023, approved 6-0.

Draft minutes of Feb. 7, 2023, approved 5-0 with Ms. Andrews abstaining.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Lowell reminded the board that it needed to send its annual request for potential candidates in the form of a letter to the newspaper ASAP. Mr. Brace agreed to send the revised letter to the Inquirer & Mirror.

The board discussed the importance of Town election candidates being able to speak at the Nantucket Civic League's upcoming Candidates Forum.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff

Mr. Brace read Town Biologist Tara Riley's report into the record.

"I have the following to report. I have gone through the bushel count reports (Both JC Johnson's and the monthly trip reports).

While no reporting is perfect, it appears we are still missing lots of trip reports for November-January that seem to be a more accurate estimation of what is coming out of the water. The current NRD (Natural Resources Department) estimates are at 3,580, which incorporates part of February. I am still confident that we will end up around 5,000 to 6,000 bushels for the season. The boats still range from 8-15 per day depending on the weather.

We have reviewed the sediment transport proposals and submitted our rankings to the Town for review."

Mr. Fronzuto praised Ms. Riley for consistently providing her report to the HSAB whether in person or by email. Ms. Andrews agreed along with the rest of the HSAB. Mr. Brace stressed that the HSAB really needs Ms. Lucey to attend its meeting regularly because without her informing the board on the Marine Department activities, it felt like the HSAB was completing only half of its mission.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

No comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Brochure email - discussion

Mr. Lowell said he felt the Select Board could incorporate what the HSAB is working on into its effort. Mr. Brace suggested that both

boards are on different tracks with similar intentions and that the HSAB should continue to work on its public education effort.

Mr. Fronzuto said what the HSAB is working on is not a brochure but an informational sheet. He added that the HSAB needs to also pick a date and location for its proposed public information workshop on where and how individual property owners' contribute pollution to Nantucket Harbor.

Mr. Brace asked which entity pays for printing the mailer to be inserted into the tax bills.

Mr. Fronzuto offered to pay for the printing but also offered to see if the NRD could do the printing. Mr. Bossi said this along with how the HSAB books the community room with computers and organizes such a workshop should all go in the email to Erika Mooney.

Mr. Brace clarified that the HSAB needed to be very specific on what it's proposing to do so it can get definitive answers back from Ms. Mooney. He added that he could rewrite his email to Erika to reflect everything the HSAB is trying to do.

The HSAB tentatively agreed that May or June would work for this workshop.

Ms. Andrews said dates in these months would work for her. She added that the info sheet could be posted in a lot of places around the island.

Vineyard Wind and South Coast Wind – Discussion

Mr. Lowell reported that he attended the South Coast Wind presentation and found there were a lot questions still to be answered.

Green crabs – Discussion

Mr. Anderson reported that he might need to tweak his report. Mr. Bossi said that the report was so well done that the only change needed was to replace all of the "I"s with "we"s to make report from the board rather than just Mr. Anderson, and submit the

report to the Harbor Plan Update Committee. Mr. Fronzuto also commended Mr. Anderson on his report.

Mr. Lowell said the report is a good example of what previous HSAB members have done in the past in terms of working on issues the board has worked on.

The HSAB voted unanimously to act on Mr. Bossi's recommendation.

Harbors Action Plan Committee HSAB recommendations – Discussion

Mr. Lowell asked the board to generate more recommendations. Mr. Fronzuto said he's concerned about the organizational and management health of the harbor. In this light, he added that he's hearing from his constituents that mooring management, boat holding tank pumpouts, Town pier issues, expansion and renovation of the boat basin, and the lack of participation in the harbor plan update and at HSAB meetings by the Town's harbormaster are on their minds and his. He said this theme would be his focus with the update of the harbor plan. Mr. Bossi agreed that the harbormaster needs to attend all of the meetings, He suggested the HSAD recommend in a letter to the Select Board to get the harbormaster attend the meetings.

Mr. Fronzuto said that the HSAB has always been supportive of all of the harbormaster's efforts. Mr. Brace agreed, adding that the HSAB can't help the harbormaster if she doesn't report to this board on a regular basis. He added that the harbormaster should attend HSAB meetings at least once a month.

Mr. Lowell asked if the deputy or police chief is attending the harbor plan update committee meetings. Mr. Fronzuto replied no. Mr. Fronzuto said he would speak with the Urban Harbors staff to ask why the harbormaster wasn't invited to these meetings. Mr. Brace suggested that either him or Mr. Fronzuto should raise this issue at the next harbor plan update committee meeting.

Sediment Transport Study and dredge plan – Discussion

Mr. Lowell said he wanted the board to think about how the HSAB could present its proposal for micro-dredging eelgrass beds to remove excess sand to the NRD. Mr. Brace said the HSAB should wait until the firm to do the study is hired before making this presentation. Mr. Lowell added that it wouldn't hurt to get it ready well before the consultant is hired.

Pool water discharge - Discussion

No discussion.

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

Stormwater runoff and harbor impacts, and discussion of possible production of zones of contribution brochure with map for property owners

No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Coastal Resilience Advisory Board – Update

Mr. Brace explained Resilient Nantucket's proposed coastal resilience walk from Brant Point to the Creeks highlighting key places along the walk that best depict the impacts of sea level rise. Mr. Brace reported that CRAC member Christy Kickham, a member of the Capital Programs Committee (CapCom), reported to the CRAC that \$1 million is being allocated to be matching funds for grants to help pay for several near-future Town coastal resilience projects. The projects include renovating Millie's Bridge, building actually bridges at First and Second Bridge, raising Polpis Road as it passes through Folgers Marsh and putting in an artificial reef in Sesachacha Pond to protect Polpis Road. Mr. Brace reported that with the withdrawal of the Siasconset Beach Preservation Fund from the Conservation Commission for its geotube expansion, and the Select Board's unanimous vote to remove the existing geotubes, the Town is now concerned that

individual property owners will start installing their own erosion control structures.

Mr. Brace reported that interim coastal resilience coordinator Vincent Murphy updated the CRAC on the implementation progress of the Coastal Resilience Plan's 40 recommendations.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

No comments.

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 6-0, at 6:31 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ph4rrRVC8Uw&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg>

Future Meetings:

March 7 and March 21

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary