

Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
Meeting trailer, 131 Pleasant St., Nantucket, MA 02554
***HSAB meeting are video-recorded and**
available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube

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

Members Absent: Dave Fronzuto

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept:

Others:

CALL TO ORDER

5:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 5-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of April 4, 2023

Mr. Brace reported that he was still working on these minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Filling empty HSAB seat

Mr. Brace reported that he didn't have any news on this from Erika Mooney. Mr. Lowell said the Select Board has to appoint someone to fill the vacant seventh seat on the HSAB.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

Ms. Andrews asked if there was a plan to deal with the new Marine Department building whose design and construction process is currently stalled. Mr. Lowell explained how the cost of the project has increased substantially and that there was some discussion about building this structure on the Town parking lot side of Washington Street.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff
No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Harbor watershed insert – Update/Discussion

Mr. Lowell reported that the Nantucket Shellfish Association (NSA) recently pledged its support of this effort with the HSAB. Mr. Brace reported that he'd sent the final version of the buck slip to Town Administration but had yet to hear back on if the HSAB could proceed with its plan for its forum. Mr. Brace recommended that the HSAB come up with a name for its harbor watershed workshop.

Vineyard Wind and South Coast Wind – Discussion

Mr. Lowell reported that the wind turbine opposition group, Nantucket Residents Against Wind Turbines (AckRats) had a lot more information on these two wind turbine projects to share with the HSAB. This includes silt plumes produced during installation, laying of the power cables between the wind turbines and the mainland, and impacts on commercial fishermen.

Ms. Andrews stated that the potential for floating wind turbines is a bad idea.

Mr. Lowell reported that Ack-Rats still feels that there's still time for the Town to reconsider its support of the Vineyard Wind wind turbine project.

Green crabs – Discussion

Mr. Anderson reported that the Nantucket Land Council already has two commercial bay scallopers committed to trapping green crabs to be added to the Toscana Corp's compost pile. The fishermen will check their traps once a week for four weeks and haul in whatever they catch. Mr. Lowell reported that one island chef will use green crabs to cook with for his high school cooking class. Mr. Anderson reported the Land Council's advice that overfishing these crabs one year would cause them to rebound exponentially the following year.

Harbors Action Plan Committee HSAB recommendations – Discussion

Mr. Brace reported on behalf of HSAB representative Dave Fronzuto that the Nantucket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee (NHAPUC) is receptive to any recommendations for the updated plan that the HSAB wants to make. He added that this committee is just getting organized and does not yet have approval from the state's office of Coastal Zone Management to get going on the actually updating. Mr. Brace continued that the NHAPUC is also working on the planning of its first public meeting at which people can come share their concerns in person, by letter or via Zoom.

Mr. Lowell said that he hopes that Nantucket's Sewer Department contributes to the NHAPUC's updating process with regards to outfall pipes carrying toxic materials into the harbor. Mr. Anderson said in speaking with Sewer Department Director David Gray, he'd been agreeable to attending a future HSAB meeting. Mr. Lowell said Mr. Gray attending a HSAB meeting would help the board prepare for its watershed workshop. Mr. Lowell added that

recommendations relating to this subject and for the Sediment Transport Study and dredge plan from the HSAB should be written ASAP and sent to the NHAPUC.

Sediment Transport Study and dredge plan – Discussion

No discussion.

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

NEW BUSINESS

Coastal Resilience Advisory Board – Update

Mr. Brace reported to the HSAB that at its April 11, 2023 meeting, the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee (CRAC), the committee reviewed and discussed Town Meeting articles with coastal resilience relevance. Mr. Brace reported that the CRAC discussed how to get the Town to commit more funds to coastal resilience projects, how to prioritize the 40 recommendations in the Coastal Resilience Plan (CRP), how to get the funding amounts needed in front of the Finance Committee and Capital Program Committee sooner.

Mr. Brace reported that the Town's new coastal resilience coordinator, Leah Hill, said it would take around 18 months for consultant Arcadis to complete Sediment Transport Study and dredge plan, that the work would begin at the end of April and be completed in 2024.

Mr. Brace reported that RJ Turcotte of the Land Council encouraged the CRAC to have this work done as soon as possible and to have the whole island included in the study and plan instead of just the harbors.

Mr. Brace reported that the CRAC discussed various grants to fund the CRP's recommended projects and that outgoing coastal resilience coordinator Vince Murphy said he was seeking funding from the state's Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP) is

interested in funding the creation of a climate action plan for Nantucket.

Mr. Brace reported that Ms. Hill believes the MVP grant is a good source of funding for the protective berm proposed run along the Nantucket downtown waterfront.

Mr. Brace reported that Ms. Hill met with all of the members of the CRAC to get ideas from them on coastal resilience. He added that he informed Ms. Hill on all of the HSAB's resilience related issue.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

No questions or comments.

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Lowell reported that the NSA has ordered 1,000 of the no-toxic-materials dumpster stickers have been ordered and that he and Dave Fronzuto would be putting them on dumpsters around the island.

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 5-0, at 6:05 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfgbEO3T3QE&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg>

Future Meetings:

May 2 and May 16

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary

