

Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
Via Zoom
***HSAB meeting are video-recorded**

Members present: Dave Bossi, Scott Anderson, Ginger Andrews,
Dave Fronzuto

Members Absent: Andy Lowell, Peter Brace, Jim Sjolund

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept:

Others: Kona Hosier, Samantha Denettte

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Anderson called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

Mr. Anderson read the script for remotely conducted open meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Anderson called for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Andrews made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Fronzuto seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 4-0 to approve the agenda

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of Dec. 5, 2023

Draft minutes of Jan. 2, 2024

Draft minutes of Jan. 16, 2024

Mr. Anderson called for a motion to approve all three sets of minutes. Mr. Fronzuto made a motion to approve these three sets of minutes. Ms. Andrews seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of Dec. 5, 2023, Jan. 2, 2016 and Jan. 16, 2024.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Town Elections - HSAB's two open seats

Ms. Andrews said she won't be running for a third term on the HSAB.

Mr. Anderson expressed his appreciation for Ms. Andrews' commitment to the HSAB for two terms and her expertise. Mr. Fronzuto echoed Mr. Anderson's sentiments and added that she brings a "special insight" to the board. Mr. Fronzuto thanked Ms. Andrews for her service to the HSAB.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff

No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Seed management - Discussion

Ms. Denette reported that the Natural Resources Department (NRD) is currently moving seed from Nantucket Harbor to Madaket Harbor depending on good weather. Ms. Denette reported that the bay scallop fishery is still active. Mr. Fronzuto agreed.

Harbor watershed public information outreach ideas – Discussion

No discussion

Harbors Action Plan Committee HSAB recommendations – Discussion

Mr. Fronzuto said he didn't attend the Feb. 12, 2024 meeting of the Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee (NMHAPUC). He said he would have a report for the HSAB at its next meeting.

Removing Marine Department from Police Department administrative jurisdiction – Discussion

Mr. Fronzuto reported that Ms. Lucey successfully removed herself from the union and that the town has appointed an assistant harbormaster, Shane Casey. He reported that NRD director Jeff Carlson and Town administration are working the removal of the Marine Department from the Police Department. He added that is working to have this effort become an action item of the harbor plan update. Mr. Fronzuto detailed the history of the Marine Department and how the Town split the Marine Department from the Natural Resources Department. He explained the necessity of having the Marine Department being autonomous from the Police Department. Mr. Bossi said he really wants to hear Ms. Lucey thoughts on this proposal, but he still said he's good with making this a recommendation for the NMHAPUC. Mr. Bossi made a motion that the HSAB support this proposal. Ms. Andrews seconded Mr. Bossi's motion. The HSAB voted 4-0 to recommend to the NMHAPUC that it include a recommendation in the updated harbors action plan to remove the Marine Department from the Police Department.

Although not an item on this agenda, the HSAB briefly discussed the potential uses of Petrel Landing.

Although not an item on this agenda, the HSAB briefly discussed Mr. Fronzuto's proposal to increase the ferry embarkation fee and change how this revenue is spent.

Although not an item on this agenda, the HSAB briefly discussed Mr. Fronzuto's proposal for an alternative pier at the West Jetty.

Speeding ferries letter – Discussion

Mr. Anderson said he would ask if the letter to the ferry companies has been sent out. He asked Ms. Denette if she had sent the similar letter from the Nantucket Shellfish Association (NSA) to the ferry companies. Ms. Denette did not reply. Mr. Bossi asked for a motion to have Mr. Brace send the letter on behalf of the HSAB. Ms. Andrews seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 4-0 to have Mr. Brace send this letter to the ferry companies. Ms. Denette said she had yet to send the NSA letter to the ferry companies and that she was waiting for the HSAB to send its letter.

Returning scallop shells to the harbor – Discussion

The HSAB acknowledged that the board had previously discussed this item and also reiterated that health benefits of returning shellfish shells to the harbors.

Scallop shell pile hazards at landfill – Update

Mr. Anderson reiterated his efforts to solve this issue including working with the Department of Public Works superintendent on possible solutions. He said he would update the HSAB on this item at the next meeting.

Mr. Fronzuto questioned why this scallop shell dumping site was moved from the Jetties Beach back parking. Ms. Andrews said neighbors complained about the gulls and the smell.

Clarification of red-flag days protocol, identification of official harbor thermometer and shellfish warden-fishermen communication – Update from Natural Resources Department

The HSAB agreed to move this discussion to the next meeting when town biologist Tara Riley would be in attendance.

Ms. Denette said that commercial scallopers have not heard from the NRD on this issue.

Semi-regular HSAB report - Discussion

The HSAB agreed to wait until Mr. Brace is present at a meeting to discuss this item.

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

Aquaculture regulations review – Discussion

The HSAB agreed to discuss this item at the next meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

No public comments or questions.

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

Mr. Anderson called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Andrews made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bossi seconded the motion. The HSAB voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting.

YOUTUBE LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpilZqdz14I&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg&index=1>

Future Meetings:

March 5 and March 19

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary

