

**Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board**  
**Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Via Zoom**  
**\*HSAB meeting are video-recorded**

**Members present:** Andy Lowell, Dave Bossi, Dave Fronzuto, Peter Brace, Scott Anderson, Jim Sjolund, Bobby DeCosta

**Members Absent:**

**Marine Dept:** Sheila Lucey

**Natural Resources Dept:** Jeff Carlson,

**Others:** Bruce Cowan

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Lowell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Lowell called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Bossi seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 7-0 to approve the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Draft minutes of Feb. 18, 2025**

The HSAB did not vote on the minutes of the Feb. 18, 2025 meeting of the HSAB.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

No report.

**MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

**General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey**

Ms. Lucey reported that with the help of Mr. Fronzuto, she had was getting close to creating regulations for the overcrowding at the dinghy dock at the Town Pier. She added that they weren't

ready to show to the HSAB. She explained that her first idea is having dinghy owners get permits to tie up their dinghies at the dinghy dock and their permit would be connected to their mooring permits in the harbor, but she felt this would cause many boaters to get out of boating. Ms. Lucey explained that Tidal Creek Boatyard was causing a lot of the problems at the dinghy dock by putting 25 dinghies there. She is proposing a possible valet system in which Tidal Creeks would bring dinghies to the harbor when their customers need them. Another of her ideas is putting seasonal dinghy docks off of Land Bank property to alleviate the congestion. Ms. Lucey said she would have an update on this situation at the HSAB's next meeting.

Ms. Lucey reported that she's removed some of the wreckage of submerged boats off of Monomoy. She added that she would be getting the rest of wreckage out of the harbor during the spring.

Ms. Lucey reported that one of the new finger floating docks will be replaced because of a crack in the float.

Ms. Lucey reported she's working with National Grid to get a pole with power installed near the Marine Department office at 34 Washington St.

Ms. Lucey reported that construction of the new building for the Marine Department is still pending approval of funding at Town Meeting. She said she's hopeful it would be approved at the spring or fall Town Meeting this year.

Ms. Lucey reported the hiring of an assistant harbor master, Charlie Smith, who served in the U.S. Coast Guard at Station Brant Point.

Ms. Lucey reported that the Marine Department recently purchased a firefighting boat and it will arrive before April 15.

Ms. Lucey reported that the Marine Department now has a new building where maintenance work can now be done indoors.

Mr. Anderson asked about the bell buoy currently in the harbor.

Ms. Lucey said it would be removed soon by the Coast Guard.

Mr. DeCosta asked if the fire boat can be in the water year-round.  
Ms. Lucey agreed that the fire boat should remain in the water year-round and that she would push for this.  
Mr. Cowan offered to help with the removal of the submerged boat wreckage off of Monomoy.  
Ms. Lucey left the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT**

### **General Natural Resources Department report – Jeff Carlson**

Mr. Carlson reported that the hatchery is preparing to raise ribbed mussels and oysters in the hatchery.  
Mr. Carlson said the NRD is seeking three summer interns and that they've received more than 90 applications.  
Mr. Carlson reported that with a grant from the Great Harbor Yacht Club, the NRD will be creating a eelgrass management plan.  
Mr. Carlson reported that the NRD's water quality sampling program is starting up within the next six weeks. Mr. Carlson added that the NRD would be opening Sesachacha and Hummock ponds soon.  
Mr. Fronzuto asked Mr. Carlson if the NRD would be utilizing the housing being vacated by Marine Department staff for seasonal NRD staff.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT**

No questions or comments.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Submerged boat wreckage/hazard off Monomoy – Discussion**

Previously discussed in Natural Resources Department report.

### **Amendments to Town shellfish regulations – Continued review and discussion**

Mr. Lowell continued this item to the next HSAB meeting with the consent of the HSAB.

### **Shellfish warden notifications to commercial bay scallopers regarding red flag days and other vital communications – Discussion**

Mr. Lowell continued this item to the next HSAB meeting with the consent of the HSAB.

### **Creation of an app for Nantucket weather reports and for reporting daily shellfish catch totals, commercial and recreational, to state and local biologists – Discussion**

Mr. Carlson said that Ms. Riley and assistant Town biologist Griffin Harkins were working on this app and would soon need assistance from the Town's IT department.

## **HEALTH OF THE HARBORS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Elected or appointed board – Discussion**

Mr. Carlson explained that the Town Council Study Committee, on which he is a member, is exploring a Town manager/Town Council form of government in which some of the existing elected boards would become boards appointed by a Town Council and that the HSAB might become an appointed board under this change. He explained the reasoning for this proposal and that this group felt that the HSAB may be better off as an appointed board. The HSAB unanimously disagreed that the HSAB should transition to an appointed board. The board agreed that an appointed HSAB would make it difficult for fishermen to get on the HSAB and that the HSAB being an elected board means a vetting process that allows the public to choose who serves on the

HSAB. The board felt the HSAB has a more powerful voice when it is an elected board. The HSAB agreed that it has almost always been able to get a full board elected and whenever the board had a vacancy between elections, it always found replacement members that the Select Board then appointed to the HSAB. The members of the HSAB took turns explaining their reasons they're not in favor of the proposed change to an appointed board. Mr. Bossi made a motion that the HSAB remain an elected board. Mr. Anderson seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 7-0 to approve Mr. Bossi's motion. Mr. Lowell said that the HSAB vote annually to keep itself an elected board. Mr. Carlson said he would relay the HSAB's vote to remain an appointed board to the Town Council Study Committee.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT**

No questions or comments.

## **RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

## **ADJOURN**

Mr. Lowell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sjolund made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bossi seconded that motion. The HSAB voted 7-0 at 6:29 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

## **YOUTUBE LINK**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rCBb0fHN1M&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg&index=1>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter B. Brace, Secretary

