

Provincetown Shellfish Committee Meeting: March 3, 2015, Center for Coastal Studies.

Present: Lory Santos, Chair; Members: Melville Cote, (Acting Sec.); John Baldwin, David Flattery, Rick Macara. Ex Officio: Shellfish Constable, Steve Wisbauer. Others present: Tony Jackett, Dan Degruittola, Peter Brown, Banner reporter.

Called to order at 5 PM

Old Business:

An agenda item under new business, introduction of new constable, was moved to old business.

1. Steve Wisbauer, the new Shellfish Constable was introduced and made some introductory remarks. Among them was the possibility of developing new shellfish beds for oysters in addition to the Johnson St area bed. He asked for opinions and a discussion ensued. Also discussed was the possibility of a means of better identification for recreational permit holders. Committee regulations may have to be updated. Mr. Jackett gave a brief history of regulation of closed areas and necessary steps to open and regulate.
2. Bond issues for ADA grant holders. The current policy for bonding ADA grant holders is not satisfactory. The Truro shellfish committee has found that a \$10,000 bond can be purchased for \$100 yearly. Lory will contact a local insurance agent to research the matter.
3. In order to make a change in our regulations, it is necessary to rescind the present rule and present a new one in a public meeting. David Flattery made a motion to rescind the last amendment to the regulations that would change the bond requirement to an escrow account. The motion was passed by a vote of 5 to 0. (It was noted that this change can be presented at the next public hearing when new ADA grants are made.)
4. The issue of to whom the new shellfish constable will report was clarified. As this is a union regulated position, the constable must report to someone. The new constable investigated the requirement and will be able to operate independently under the overall supervision of the Harbor Master. This will be an advantage because of access to the resources such as boats, and other resources of the pier.
5. Because of the bad weather and tides leaving abundant stock, we will request the selectmen to extend the shellfish season through Friday, April 17th. (During regulation change, we may request that this authority rest with the Shellfish Committee.)
6. Activity reports for the ADA grants are due at the end of the year and will be important for all grant holders to complete. The current condition of the grant area and buoys is satisfactory in spite of the usual storms.
7. David Flattery made a motion to adjourn and it was voted 5 to 0 and adjourned at 6:15.
8. Next meeting will be April 7th at 5 PM at the Center for Coastal Studies.