Shellfish Conservation Committee

Meeting Minutes

04/09/2024

Item 1. Call to Order. Meeting called to order at 6:38 p.m.

Item 2. Attendance. The following members were present: Paul Erickson, Terry Twomey, Travis Turner, Daryen Granata, Noah Nygren and Liam Erickson. Also in attendance: Council Liaison Donald Hamill and Harbor Master Gene O'Neill.

Item 3. Review and Approval of Minutes. 02-14- 2024. Approved.

Item 4. Act on the request for nominations for Chair. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of Noah Nygren as Chair of Committee

Item 5. Act on the request for nominations for Vice Chair. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of Terry Twomey as Vice Chair of Committee

Item 6. Act on the request for nominations for Recording Clerk. The Committee unanimously voted in favor of Liam Erickson as Secretary

Item 7. Harbor Master's Report. The Harbor Master stated that his last day would be May 3rd.

Item 8. Council Liaison's Report. Councilor Hamill commented on the budget and the budget referendum; the reval and the Councilor Corner article that he wrote.

Item 9. Old Business. None at this time.

Item 10. General Public Comment. None at this time.

Item 11. New Business.

Paul Erickson stated that it appears that the clam stock is slowing down and could be difficult to make a living in Scarborough, digging clams. It not one specific area. Some areas have been dug out and have not been reseeded. Big spit, is slowing way down. Clams on Turners bar.

Committee discussion ensued around applying for funds food clam seed; keeping data on this subject and work with DMR. It was noted that "we shouldn't be generous at all until we protect our commercial industry." It is important to share the resource, but it is also very important to consider: resident commercial clammers as they need to pay their taxes in Scarborough. There was discussion around doing additional surveys. In January we will be asked about license numbers and we might have to consider eliminating the recreational license.

The warm weather is helping the green crabs to thrive. Tough times until colder weather. Noah(Beal) 4 inch max size clam. Based on study. Clam 4+ inches reproduces 5x the amount of a 2 inch clam. T. Turner thought one of the Scientists could write up a plan of what a seeding project could look like D. Granata would check with a friend Mike. 4 inch rule on clams- led to tons of clams.
"Trying to flood out the water with more seed" - Bryan Beal 2-4 inch

Item 12. Set Next Agenda.

- Old : Discussion on the declining clam population
- New: Discussion on license lottery day of the week

Item 13. Item(s) For Working Document. None at this time.

Item 14: Adjournment. Motion by L. Gallagher, seconded by N. Nygren, to move approval to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Vote was unanimous.

Signed by: Liam Erickson
(Recording Clerk)