Shellfish Conservation Committee Minutes

2/11/2025

Item 1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Item 2: Those Present: In attendance was Liam Erickson, Jason Quirk, Andy Blanchard, Noah Nygren, Julie Gondzar, Harbor Master Daryen Granata.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes from January 14: Motion by Andy Blanchard, seconded by Jason Quirk to approve minutes from January 14, 2025.

Vote: 5 Yeas.

Item 4: Harbor Master Report:

- DMR License Allocations. Should be resolved today.
- Water quality testing? Conference call on Friday to discuss opening more flats. Many DMR people quitting and creating issue with testing.
- What other flats opening up? Uncertain, but want to have a conversation. More of they want to increase water quality testing done by locals to help with work load.
- Parking stickers available.
- Lottery in April.

Item 5: Council Liaison's Report: No Liaison in attendance.

Item 6: General Public Comment: No Comment.

Item 7: Old Business:

Allocation of Commercial Shellfish license numbers:

Daryen: Ari from DMR says that they are willing to honor the license reduction ONLY if done by attrition. Considerations to complimentary licenses. Ari from DMR will be on conference call with Daryen on Friday.

Need these numbers done by tonight to get info to Town Council.

We have the data to support it.

Daryen's suggestion: make motion to maintain current numbers with reduction of current licenses if they were to not get renewed. Those licenses would fall away and not be available. Ari says to consider 2026, with more data, motion to reduce comp licenses and residential licenses.

Noah: Seems attrition is/was implied. Reduction via attrition.

If state says No, the town council ultimately will make the decision.

Motion by Jason Quirk, seconded by Julie Gondzar to rescind the motion made at January 14, 2025 meeting in regards to the reduction in commercial allocations.

Vote: 5 Yeas.

Motion by Jason Quirk, seconded Andy Blanchard to maintain current commercial allocation numbers with a reduction of 2 commercial resident licenses and 2 commercial resident student licenses by attrition.

Vote: 5 Yeas.

Motion by Noah Nygren, seconded by Jason Quirk to table Allocation of Residential Shellfish rates indefinitely.

Vote: 4 Yeas, 1 Nay (Andy Blanchard)

Item 8: New Business:

Conservation Projects of 2025. Noah introduces memo that he and Daryen drafted up.

Activities added in April based on Green Crab life cycle.

April 1- Oct 31 crab trapping. This is an extension. Crab kill in April. Similar to last year.

Andy survey question: Many locations on one day. Is that a lot of work? Will we have enough people for that? Answer: We will have to see who signs up!

Could prioritize locations as we get sign ups.

Daryen: DMR says that with the extreme cold temps, this is going to take a significant toll on number of crabs this coming season.

Motion by Jason Quirk, seconded by Andy Blanchard to approve 2025 conservation activities.

Vote: 5 Yeas.

Item 9: Set Next Agenda:

Agenda is TBD. May cancel.

Item 10: Adjournment: Motion by Noah Nygren, seconded by Jason Quirk to adjourn meeting at 6:52pm.

Vote: 5 Yeas.