



Town of Harpswell, Maine

INCORPORATED 1758

MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 39

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<http://www.harpswell.maine.gov/marineresources>

David Wilson
Chairman

Marine Resources Committee Meeting January 24, 2023

Minutes

The meeting opened at 5pm

Attendance: David Wilson, Mark Leuchtenberger, Sean Hall, & Assoc Mary Ann Nahf (arr. 5:08), Paul Plummer, Shellfish Admin. Shellfish Warden: Stephen Welch Guest: M. Kelly & F. Bell, FB Environmental.

Absent: Robt. Boyce,

- Minutes from Dec. 27, 2022 approved
- Committee Announcements: None
- Warden Announcements: None
- FB Environmental Water Quality Report: Maggie Kelly presented details from the report. Field tests done July –Sept 2022
 - Morgan/Spruce Cove: Found markers for human, avian and dog. David mentioned 2 streams to the south feed Otter Brook and could be checked.
 - Doughty Cove, north of Long Reach Lane area of fresh water stream intersection opp. Cundys Harbor Rd: Found human and avian markers
 - Next steps: Locate sources of human contamination; Codes Office may be enlisted.
- 2022 Shellfish Survey Report: Steve reported that in general there continues to be a downward trend in softshell stock. Stock counts way down in tested Middle Bay sites (Barnes Pt. Birch and White Isles), water temp 6-8°. higher and oxygen levels down because of algae blooms were mentioned as possibilities.
 - Laurel Cove most green crab ever seen + ribbon worms.
 - Less ribbon worms in general from previous years
 - Suggest local nitrogen tests be considered for Middle Bay sites.
- 2023 Shellfish License Allocation: It was moved and seconded that the shellfish license allocation number remain the same as last year. Passed unanimously.
- New Business:
 - Student Licenses: Request for application of the ordinance that allows harvesters who have lived in town to be able to keep their licenses if need to move out of town because of housing affordability, be applied to those with student licenses that wish to continue harvesting but can't afford to live in town.
 - Action: Paul will prepare language and bring to next meeting for a vote.

- Aquaculture standard lease hearing regarding new 17 ac. lease for oysters and quahogs in Pennellville area of Middle Bay on Brunswick / Harpswell line. Committee requests that the Selectmen express their concern with location because of area flow, about competition with wild species, sediment displacement because of dragging, and nitrogen overload.
 - Action: The committee moved that the stated concerns be taken to the Select Board who will present to DMR at the hearing. Seconded by Mark L Passed unamously. Assoc voted to constitute a quorum.
- David brought up holding testing of White Island until next year. Also, would like to discuss at next meeting considering Brickyard and Rich's Coves be closed for the summer.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6pm.

Submitted by: Mary Ann Nahf, Scribe