



# 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

Sean Hall  
Vice-Chairman

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## Marine Resources Committee Meeting April 26, 2023 Minutes

Meeting available at: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/1503508>

- Open Meeting at 5:013
- **Attendance:** David Wilson, Sean Hall, Mark Leuchtenberger, Robt. Boyce, Warren Graybill & Assoc Mary Ann Nahf , Paul Plummer, Shellfish Admin. Todd McGee, Shellfish Warden, Kathy Doughty, Town Clerk.:
- **March 28 minutes** approved unamously.
- **Public Comment:** Harvester J. Farmer questioned the closing of Quahog Bay for the summer season, preferring January and February. The summer closing would allow spawning without disturbance.
- **Warden Announcements:** Todd Mc Gee asked the harvesters to take notice of any signs saying, "Private Property, no trespassing". He advised them to talk to the property owner to get permission to walk across their property.
- **Quahog Bay Conservation Closure Update:** Permits were approved for closure. David suggested doing a quick survey of the area in July to be sure the quahogs weren't getting too large, and if so would have time to apply to open a month earlier.
- **Use of Plastics/Styrofoam in Harpswell Waters:** – Sean started discussion by commenting about the amount of plastic residue from cutting products such as Styrofoam, and composites near the shore. Discussion included having some bmp's included in ordinance. Paul will check Camden's new ordinance banning polystyrene for some wording.
- **Strawberry Creek Enhancement Project:** Paul brought up considering a project to show the work of the Harvesters to the public; possibly across from the Town Office. Could be showing netting. David suggested putting brood stock in.
- **Water Quality Monitoring Devices:** – FOCB doesn't have resources to do right now. Paul will talk with Max Burdis to get more information about the grant he received to test water quality.
- **Scheduling of Conservation Days:** May 6 @ 11:00AM / Hildreth Landing / Seed Raising & Cleaning  
May 20 @ 11:00AM / Hildreth Landing / Seed Cleaning  
June 3 @ 4:00AM / Town Office / Quahog Bay Shellfish Relay  
June 3 @ 10:30AM / Town Office / Quahog Bay Shellfish Relay (By Boat)
- **New Business:**
  - Paul clarified that Over 65 licenses for out-of-town harvesters will be handled by applying the half price feature to their current license type.

- Ideas for advertising clams and quahogs were discussed. Paul mentioned that the Casco Bay Working Group is planning to have a float in the Maine Clam Festival and the Freeport Oyster Festival is considering expanding to additional shellfish. A Clam night is planned for a Sea Dogs game this summer. A
- The harvesters talked about educating the public about quahogs. One idea was to have an interpretive sign at the guardrail across from the Town Office, where they will be growing clams. We could have an explanation and samples at the Appreciation Day.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55

Submitted by,  
Mary Ann Nahf, Scribe