

NOV 22 2022

**Shellfish Advisory Committee
Minutes**

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK** *MB*

Remote meeting of October 27, 2022 was called to order at 2:05 PM

SAC Members Present: Dan Smith (Chairman), Gary Sharpless (Vice-chair), Mark Wisotzky, Steve Wisbauer, Nick Brown,

Others Present: Tony Jacket (Truro Shellfish Constable), Noelle Scoullar (Town Admin, Exec. Asst.), John Donahue (Secretary of Truro Harbor Commission), Jon Winder (Vice Commodore Pamet Yacht Club), Jarrod Cabral (Director, Truro DPW), Douglas Grey, Orian White

Committee could not approved the minutes from the March 10, 2022

Public Comment – Parker Small discussed a Proposed Scientific Permit aimed at improving on Sea Clam propagation – using some of commercial Sea Clam fishermen's underside catch to develop a Spawning Sanctuary (nursery) between recreational shellfish areas and commercial areas in Cape Cod Bay. While the Committee supports projects such as the one Parker outlined, SAC asked that he submit a written proposal for formal review and recommendation by SAC for the Truro Select Board to consider. Tony made note of the fact that Sea Clams are regulated by the State and would need to involve them.

Discussion of Millpond Culvert Project - Jarrod Cabral (Director, Truro DPW) with engineering consultant and Woods Hole consultant.

Jarrod explained that the Town has received federal funds for a project to increase the flow of the bay into Pamet Harbor and River to return it back to it's original state as a salt water marsh. He outlined four options 1) 8' x 8' culvert, 2) 9' x 8' culvert 3) Roadway abandonment of 65', 4) Roadway abandon of 90-95'. Both 1) & 2) would require raising the road at the taxpayers cost of about \$1.5M. Currently the Mill Pond road culvert is a 3ft diameter cement pipe that would need repair.

Mark asked what type of flow would we expect – WH consultant said the Mill Pond area would increase from its current 10 acres to about 13.6 acres increasing the flow about 30%. There was also discussions by Steve W. Nick B. about the redo repair of the Pilgrim Lake culvert, delay of Eagle Creek bridge and concerns what would the town be left with if the project didn't work.

Jarrod indicated that the resultant project would be monitored for 5-years.

Gary (Vice-Chair) asked if he could read his nine questions and then at later date submit other questions that others may have (because the meeting was getting behind schedule and need to discuss other items on the agenda). These are the questions and concerns about the Mill Pond Culvert Project:

- 1 - What problem are we trying to fix?
- 2 - If it is a federal grant - are there other costs that the taxpayer will have to pick-up (i.e. raising the road 2 ft., annual cleanup of the dead vegetation from salt water flow)
- 3 - What does this due to fresh water life up stream, Diamond Back turtles, Eastern Box turtles that are both endangered?
- 4 - What negative effect will it have on inner harbor coastal and PHYC coastal erosion?
- 5 - Will there be sediment (black mud) flowing more - back into the harbor requiring more dredging of the basin moorings (now our permit only allows basin dredging every other year.)
- 6 - Will the short term brackish water make us close recently opened oyster beds and delay our over all opening for recreation shell fishing which has grown steadily up to 60% increase in last two years.
- 7 - Will this brackish water create an increased insect problem that we now see at the harbor during the summer months

8 - What are the other alternatives to what we are trying to fix that would be incremental changes that we could easily monitor vs. an 8ft x 8ft culver from about a 2-3ft-diameter culver under the existing road we have right now

9 - I know that increase flow long-term could be good for shellfish growth, but I am concerned about the short-term effects we might have to live with over the next 10 years until the pond/harbor reaches a healthy equilibrium!

Review ADA applications:

Doug Grey – Resident of Truro has submitted an application for a grant in the ADA (see attached). It was discussed and reviewed by the SAC. Gary made a motion to approve his application, Mark seconded it and the vote passed 5-0.

Discuss Over-Wintering Oysters in the Pamet:

Orion put forth a proposal to create an over-wintering location in the Pamet for oysters that could be used by Truro growers that have grants in the ADA. This would allow them to consolidate their product and put it up river in the Little Pamet. The proposal is aimed at assisting the ADA grower by giving them a sheltered location to over-winter product versus sinking gear in the ADA which would be subject to storm damage and potential scallop dragger hits. A similar effort was done last year with Steve Roderick. Permitting was obtained from DMF to allow the over-wintering and also to allow the sale of Truro oysters at below market price as part of the Covid Relief Funding for Shellfish propagation effort. The committee supports this activity and suggested Orion work with Tony to bring this before the BOS. (Maps and Orion's proposal are attached).

Election of Officers:

Mark made a motion to have Chris Clarke be the Secretary for another year. Gary seconded and vote carried 5-0 in favor of Chris for Secretary

Nick made a motion to have Dan be the Chairman for another year. Dan accepted for only another year. Gary seconded and vote carried 5-0 in favor of Dan for Chairman

Mark made a motion to have Gary be Vice- Chair for another year. Nick seconded and vote carried 5-0 in favor of Gary for Vice-Chair.

Other New Business and Topics for next meeting:

Gary suggested we look into the new Shellfish Revolving fund that was voted in at the last Town Meeting (about \$2500/yr.) and look at what we might want to fund in 2023.

Dan also noted that Matthew McCue, a SAC Alternate, decided not to renew his term and asked the members to consider his replacement.

Dan made a motion to adjourn the SAC meeting at 3:35pm and Mark seconded and vote passed 5-0.

Minutes submitted on 11-6-22 for approval by:

Gary Sharpless, Vice-Chair (filling in for Chris Clarke Secretary) who had to leave the meeting.



Approved @ 11/17/22 SAC Meeting



TOWN OF TRURO

NOV 22 2022

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK *ms*