

Orleans Shellfish & Waterways Improvement Advisory Committee

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

CP May

'12 JUN 20 9:20AM

Minutes of the Meeting of May 8, 2012

In attendance were Rich Tyldesley (Chair), Mark Mathison (Vice-chair), Don Bakker, Jack Moran, David Slack, Dawson Farber (Harbormaster & Shellfish Constable), and Dave Dunford (Selectmen Liaison).

Rich called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The February and April Minutes were approved as written.

Dawson gave his report: Most of the buoys are set and all the docks are in about 3 weeks early due to previous good working weather. Twenty mooring permits were issued to people on the waiting list. There were 6 non-renewals and the remainder were relinquished by the permit holders.

Red Tide count numbers continue to decline and it's hoped Nauset Estuary can be opened to shellfishing within the next 4 to 5 weeks.

A Grant holder on C.C. Bay moved away so the first person on the waiting list for C.C. Bay will be notified. After a question from Rich, Dawson indicated there are 8 people on the C.C. Bay waiting list and 12 on the Pleasant Bay list. There are currently 19 grants on Pleasant Bay and 5 on C.C. Bay.

Nauset Inlet has further shoaled and narrowed resulting in a transit window of 1 ½ hours either side of high tide for the deeper draft lobster boats. Some lobstermen have requested mooring transfers to Pleasant Bay. A couple have been authorized for outside Quanset Pd. Dawson is considering where best to locate others.

With reference to the 26 foot craft recently acquired by the Fire Dept., Mark asked what conditions were placed on its use. Dawson replied that the Fire Dept. would have control of the vessel for 2 years at the end of which it could be returned back to the program or transferred to another Department (such as the Harbormaster). The vessel will aid in fire and rescue missions and when seas prevent the use of the 21 footers.

Rich reported on the Herring Run: eight-fold increase in April herring count versus April of last year. Twice as many eels were counted as last year. APCC says herring counts up all over. Rich said he will host a herring counter event at his house on June 7 with Stormy Mayo as the featured speaker. An email will follow with details.

Moving along the agenda, Rich said the mooring discussion had been suggested by Judy Scanlon who was not present. Because Dawson had recent relevant information, it was decided to spend some time on the topic. He met with a group of citizens concerned with waste water management who thought that resuspension of sediments from the bottom, particularly in the salt ponds, may contribute more nitrogen than septic, roads fertilizers etc. combined. Dawson told the group more research and information was necessary before he could consider any unilateral action on his part. Specifically, the extent of nitrogen contribution would have to be quantified. A correlation between conventional moorings and nitrogen loading would have to be demonstrated.

Orleans Shellfish & Waterways Improvement Advisory Committee

He said the Cape & Islands Harbormasters' Assoc. has applied for a grant to study the mooring issue. The study would test alternative moorings aiming towards a document which would reach some conclusions as to cost/benefit of different mooring systems. Funding is to be provided by Mass Bay and work is to be performed by the Urban Harbors Institute.

Dave Scanlon inquired as to the time frame and Dawson said he would check.

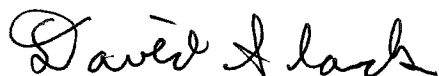
Currently, some towns have tested screw type moorings to see if they are more storm worthy than conventional systems. Drawbacks include higher costs and the fact that a condensed mooring field cannot consist of mixed mooring types.

Old Business: Dave Dunsford said the Committee Charge has been submitted to John Kelly to review with Mike Ford (Town Attorney). At issue is whether or not the number of members can be specified as "seven or nine".

Rich said the next meeting would be the last for the summer as well as being Don's last meeting as a member. He reiterated, "We need new members".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Slack

Approved June 12, 2012