

ORLEANS SHELLFISH & WATERWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, February 10, 2009

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TOWN OF ORLEANS
TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
DeLaney 10-20-09

Attendance: Cecil Newcomb(Vice Chairman), Dave Dunford (Selectman Liaison), Dawson Farber (Harbor Master), Marty Leonard (Secretary), Don Bakker, Joe Silva, Jay Harrington.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted with three amendments. 1) Lara's last name is spelled Slifka and not Simca. 2) The abbreviation of the Cape Cod Commercial Hookfisherman's Association is CCCHFA and not CHFA. 3) The amount funded for repairs on the Pilgrim Herring Run is \$50,000 and not \$15,000. Another correction that Dave mentioned was that Dawson's request for Rock Harbor had alternatives for the boards consideration.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Lara Slifka was present again and related to us that she talked to Sue, the new head of CCCHFA. She said they had no funding for the monofilament recycling program. Lara mentioned that the Friends of Pleasant Bay are interested in helping out with installation and servicing of the containers. Lara is looking into the possibility of a county grant to fund the recycling project. It would be a Cape wide project not just Orleans. Lara went on to mention the difficulty in monitoring the river herring by-catch problem with off shore seiners that are harvesting sea herring.

DAVE DUNFORD:

The selectmen had a meeting to discuss the Rock Harbor problems. A vote was taken and results were unanimous to plant beach grass in front of the parking lot, but to leave a significant path alongside the jetty so people can get to and from the flats. They also voted to remove the dumpsters and the portable toilets. Dave mentioned that many projects and items will have to be cut to help maintain the town budget. The excise tax revenue has dropped significantly and that was a large portion of income for the town. Dave said that at the present time no agricultural duties will be added to our agenda.

HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT:

Dawson stated that because of budget cuts, the money for shellfish propagation will be cut in half. Dawson also said that the money funded by the Marine Fisheries to Barnstable County that has supplied us with oyster propagation has been cut. So that means no more seed oysters for us. Dawson's department is short staffed as it is. He could not afford any lay offs so the money to operate had to be taken from somewhere.

Jay mentioned that in these tough times we are lucky to have a marine resource to provide a person or family with shellfish for food and to supplement one's income through shell fishing.

Dawson stated that a person that works for the D.E.P., who was involved with the Waste Water Management Plan in Orleans, called him and wanted to know what work had been done on Cedar Pond. He told Dawson that the D.E.P. regards Cedar Pond as a strictly fresh water pond. Apparently they did not know that the pond was affected by a salt water tidal flow.

Dawson mentioned that a person on the finance committee, at a meeting concerning Dawson's budget plans, offered an idea of placing payment boxes at the town's launching ramps. A fee of possibly \$5.00 would be feasible. This may be a way of helping out our financial difficulties.

Dawson mentioned that a scalloper that was working in Little Pleasant Bay happened to see a duck hunter in distress after his small boat capsized. After a cell phone call, a rescue effort was made including a Coast Guard helicopter that flew the person to the hospital.

NEW BUSINESS:

This was discussed earlier in the meeting regarding nomofilament recycling.

OLD BUSINESS:

A date will be set for the herring run clean up. Scott Johnson, the keeper of the run, will notify Dawson when it will happen.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM. The next meeting will be held on March 10th in the Skaket Room at 7:00 PM. Please bring agenda and minutes and notify the chair if you cannot attend.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marty Leonard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Marty Leonard