

Orleans Shellfish & Waterways Improvement Advisory Committee

'12 MAY 9 4:23PM  
Darby Asst.  
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Meeting of April 10, 2012

In Attendance were Judy Scanlon {Acting Chair}, Don Bakker, Howard Steilin, Jack Moran, David Slack, Dawson Farber (Harbormaster and Shellfish Constable), Dave Dunford (Selectmen Liaison), and Gerry Dorman (Guest-Orleans Pond Coalition)

Judy called the meeting to order at 7:04PM.

The "unofficial" minutes of the previous meeting did not require approval, there not being a quorum at that meeting. Approval of the minutes for the February meeting will be requested at the May meeting so those present in February will be in attendance.

Dawson gave his report: Rock Harbor docks are in. Red tide in Nauset Estuary spiked again last week. Closure may last two more months unless hot weather might knock spores back into dormancy. The herring count is ongoing.

March 31 is the deadline for mooring permit renewals. Little turnover: 8 or 10 of 1300. Not good news for those on the waiting list.

Channel markers being set. Nauset continues to shoal. Lobster fleet will find its transit window narrowing.

Jack asked Dawson how the oysters at Mill Pd. faired. Dawson replied he would soon be replanting the oysters throughout the estuary for public harvesting as well as opening a portion of the Mill Pd. site. Cage culture to continue to the right of the ramp.

Judy next brought up the Charge revision for discussion. Her revisions were passed around and several items were discussed. Don asked what constituted a quorum since the Charge calls for 9 members but only 7 presently sit on the committee. Don suggested altering the language to read a minimum of 7 and maximum of 9 thus a quorum would consist of 4 or 5 depending on the number of members sitting.

Guest Gerry Dorman of the Orleans Pond Coalition spoke about an oyster upweller project under study by the OPC. He said the OPC is very active now in a number of areas under the leadership of Fran McClennen and that \$2500 had been voted for the project. He indicated that OPC would use volunteers so that Dawson's workload would not be increased. They are now studying such things as location, equipment needed, training, seed procurement, and cost. Sandy Macfarlane and Henry Lind are among those providing much appreciated advice.

It's thought 4 to 6 volunteers would be needed. They are considering a seed size of 6-11 mm. with resulting animals being planted to the wild. Licensing would occur through Dawson and Cons Com would be notified.

David Slack suggested looking at an existing upweller which had been and running at Eastham's Rock Harbor docks. Jack asked if a site such as Arey's Pond were chosen wouldn't liability be an issue. Gerry replied that there would be no crowds. Supervised visits only.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that "We are in favor of supporting OPC'S endeavor to set up an upweller system and would provide assistance as requested by them". Approved 5-0-0.

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Judy reported on herring and eel counts: the herring count commenced a week early as the herring showed up about 3 weeks earlier than usual. They climbed hard and fast but presently low water impedes the run. The Keeper has gated the flow till the next run.

Elvers arrived about 2 weeks early in larger numbers than previously. A State supplied system at the head of the stream facilitates counting.

Judy asked if there was any new business. There being none she thanked Gerry for his presentation and adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Slack". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David Slack