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## Orleans Shellfish and Waterways Improvement Advisory Committee

C. Moran

## Minutes of the November 13, 2012 Meeting

**Attendance:** Richard Tyldesley (chair), Mark Matheson (vice chair), Jack Moran, Judy Scanlon, Howard Steillen, and Suzanne Phillips

Also in attendance was David Likos (guest), chair of the Chatham Shellfish Advisory Committee.

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Richard Tyldesley reported that David Dunford (selectmen's liaison) was unable to attend because he was out of town, and Dawson Farber (harbormaster) and Paul Kelleher (newly appointed committee member) were not feeling well and neither was able to attend.
2. **Appointment of Clerk.** Jack Moran, who has been serving as clerk on a temporary basis, stated that he is resigning, as he is heading for California. Suzanne Phillips was asked to serve as clerk, and she accepted.
3. **Minutes.** The minutes from the October 9, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Two corrections were made as follows: "Susan" Phillips was changed to "Suzanne". Also, it was pointed out that with the Orleans Pond Coalition upweller project, the 15,000 oyster seeds were "donated by" (not "purchased from") ARC.  
  
Richard Tyldesley moved to accept the minutes as amended; the motion was seconded by Judy Scanlon; and voted by all.
4. **Harbormaster's Report.** As Dawson Farber was unavailable, there was no harbormaster's report.
5. **Introduction of New Members.** Suzanne Phillips was introduced, and she reported that she recently moved back to Orleans, and that when she lived in town from 1993-2005, she became involved in the water quality monitoring project. She said four years ago she joined the project again and also got involved with the herring count at the Pilgrim Lake herring run. Her chief interest in the committee is because she has been employed for the past 5 years by the Chatham Shellfish Department, working mainly in the upweller, but also doing field work, and miscellaneous tasks such as repairing and making nets and other gear. She reported she has a commercial shellfish license from the Town of Orleans, and is making ready a work skiff so she can start shellfishing this winter.

Paul Kelleher will be asked to introduce himself at the next meeting.

6. **Discussion with Guest.** David Likos, chair of the Chatham Shellfish Advisory Committee, said he met Judy Scanlon at a meeting of the Pleasant Bay Alliance, and attended this meeting to see if there might be interest in sharing information (especially about Pleasant Bay) and perhaps cooperating on projects.

He spoke about some of the activities of the Chatham Shellfish Advisory Committee, and shared 3 hand-outs: 1) Shellfish Advisory Committee July 2011-July 2012 Issue Details, 2) Shellfish Advisory Committee-November 13, 2012, Agenda, and 3) a copy of a flyer about "Scare Away LP Gas Cannons" (similar to what Chatham has purchased to scare eider ducks away from mussel beds).

Members of the committee asked several questions, and there was discussion about several issues. David Likos invited members of this committee to attend their next committee meeting, which will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Chatham Community Center.

At the end of the discussion, it was suggested that next month's agenda include some projects for our committee.

7. **Adjournment.** As it was getting late, Judy Scanlon made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Howard Steillin, and agreed to by all.

Next meeting is Tuesday, December 11, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Phillips".

Suzanne Phillips  
Clerk



# Town of Chatham

## Shellfish Advisory Committee

### SHELLFISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE JULY 2011-JULY 2012 ISSUE DETAILS

The following is a list of situations and proposals that the Shellfish Advisory Committee reviewed, discussed, and resolved over the previous year:

1. Hired new Shellfish Constable.
  - a. After much debate with the state early retirement program and a petition insisting on a full time Shellfish Constable, the SAC elected member Barry Greco to represent the SAC in the hiring process.
  - b. Former SAC chairman Renee Gagne was hired in October to replace Stuart Moore as Chatham Shellfish Constable.
2. Hired new Propagation Specialist.
  - a. Shellfish Constable Renee Gagne oversaw the selection of Rachel Hutchinson as the new Shellfish Deputy and Propagation Specialist. SAC member Stephen Wright sat on the selection committee during the hiring process.
  - b. Rachel Hutchinson was the Natural Resources Officer in Eastham and ran their propagation system.
3. SAC reorganization and member history.
  - a. October 2011, Jamie Bassett was selected to fill vacancy when Renee Gagne stepped down to take the Shellfish Constable position.
  - b. November 2011:

- i. David Likos was elected as new SAC chairman.
  - ii. Stephen Wright was elected vice-chairman.
  - iii. Barry Greco was elected as clerk.
  - iv. Sac members also included Jim Blanchfield, Dominic Santoro, and Ted Lucas (who retired from the SAC this June).
- c. July 2012, John Garey was selected to fill vacancy created by the retirement of member Ted Lucas.

#### 4. Eider Depredation.

- a. Concerns back in March 2011 over the Eider consumption of mussels in Chatham Harbor were first brought to the attention of the SAC by committee member Dominic Santoro.
- b. In November the Eider/mussel relationship was explained to the Selectmen in a PowerPoint presentation by SAC Chairman David Likos and a proposal was made for 3 experimental bird deterrent cannons to be placed in strategic areas throughout Chatham Harbor.
- c. Overall purpose was to scare the ducks away from in shore mussel sets; not to kill the ducks but to influence them away to other more remote mussel locations offshore or south of Monomoy Island.
- d. After public debate, one cannon was approved.
- e. Although cannon noise tests were made at the Chatham waste treatment site, the cannon was not deployed.
- f. Other methods of depredation were investigated.
  - i. Underwater perpetual sound device.
  - ii. Human scarecrow.
  - iii. Anchoring a boat over the mussel site.
  - iv. Hiring a chase boat to disperse the ducks.
- g. Permitting process proved difficult since the ducks were targeting wild sets of mussels.

h. Experimental mussel propagation and bird mapping.

- i. Audubon is currently conducting a mussel propagation study near Tern Island in Chatham Harbor to test the feasibility of raising mussels in bags by collecting wild mussel spat.
- ii. Scott Lindell from Woods Hole gave a presentation on mussel propagation methods.
- iii. Potential mussel propagation in Chatham Harbor by the town may aid in the depredation permit processing effort.

5. Update local shellfish regulations.

a. Resident requirements.

- i. Requirements were changed from residency proof when obtaining or renewing a permit, to continuing Chatham residency during the year the permit is valid.

b. Definitions.

c. Scallop regulations.

- i. Town scallop regulations were updated to include the new state definition of a 'nub' and size requirements for harvest.

d. Clean up wording.

e. Hydraulic pumping for soft-shell clams on Monomoy and in Snake River (between Morris and Stage Islands).

- i. David Brownlie of the National Wildlife Service brought attention to the Wildlife Act which states that no mechanical devices were allowed on Monomoy Island including Hydraulic pumps.
- ii. Even though this ban had been in effect it was not enforced, and pumping had been allowed for decades.

- iii. Discussions with the shellfishing community concluded with the ban on hydraulic pumping in the Powder Hole on Monomoy.
- iv. Further discussion of pumping in the river between Morris and Stage Islands concluded with a ban on pumping there also.
- v. Hand plunging continues to be allowed in both areas.

6. South Beach Closure December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>.

- a. Protects seed quahogs from being dug up in search of legal size and having the seed freeze during the extensively long low tides that the Southway has been experiencing.
- b. Shellfish Constable has option to keep area closed if there are temperatures forecast that may be detrimental to the quahog seed.

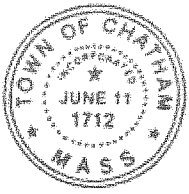
7. Dredging Proposals.

- a. Strong Island ACEC: dredging and permitting process presented by Carol Ridley of the Pleasant Bay Alliance and Ted Keon, Chatham Coastal Resources to keep Pleasant Bay access open in case of unexpected shoaling from the 2007 new cut.
  - i. Proposal was for maintaining traditional navigational routes.
  - ii. Upon approval by the SAC, a letter of support was drafted and sent to Coastal Resources.
- b. Morris Island Channel: dredging and permitting process presented by Ted Keon, Chatham Coastal Resources.
  - i. Since the Morris Island Channel is a shoal system with potential to silt in, the importance of keeping the channel navigable was discussed.
  - ii. Upon approval by the SAC, a letter of support was drafted and sent to Coastal Resources.

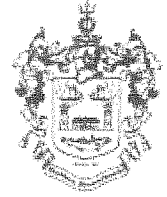
- c. The SAC expressed their concern that although dredging in both instances may become necessary, that all precautions would be taken to protect the shellfish fishery.
- 8. Presentation by the Harbormaster's Department by Wayne Julin about opening an area east of the Stage Harbor outer harbor channel to place up to 12 moorings for larger boats.
  - a. These moorings are to be made available to the Chatham fishing fleet in case shoaling in Chatham Harbor prevents the viable use of the Chatham Fish Pier.
  - b. Moorings are to be of a helical design.
- 9. Monomoy Comprehensive Conservation Plan
  - a. Still waiting for the proposal from National Wildlife Service which should be out soon since the plan is supposed to be enacted in calendar year 2012.
    - i. Currently the SAC does not see any problems with continued commercial shellfishing on Monomoy.
    - ii. Once the proposal is made public, there will be a comment period before it is sent back to the Wildlife Service to be enacted.
  - b. An important step for the approval included working along with the Wildlife Service to ban hydraulic pumping for soft-shell clams in the Powder Hole.
- 10. Current Issues the SAC is reviewing:
  - a. The finger pier extension and replacement at the Old Mill Boat Yard landing presented by Ted Keon of Coastal Resources.
  - b. The closing of Aquaculture Resource Corporation, the primary source of seed for Chatham's propagation system.
    - i. Proposal by William Clark of the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension to raise permit fees to pay off a mortgage loan used to purchase ARC.

- ii. Awareness of the propagation system and its importance to the overall continuation of the fishery.
- c. The congestion problem at Ryder's Cove landing.





# Town of Chatham



## Shellfish Advisory Committee

November 13, 2012

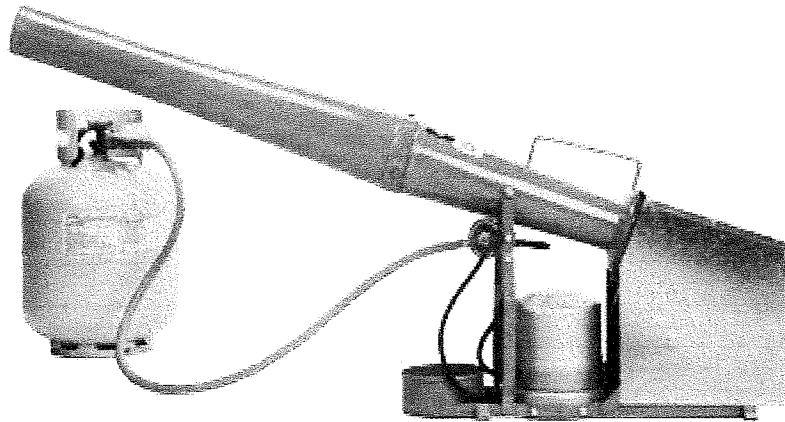
Agenda for the Shellfish Advisory Committee meeting to be held on  
Monday, November 19, 2012 in the club room at the Chatham Community Center  
at 4:00 PM:

1. Review Minutes
2. Proposal to add Stephen Wright as co-owner of the John Richards Grant.  
Steve is looking for approval from the SAC along with a letter of recommendation to the Selectmen.
3. Suspension regulations:  
Renee Gagne will discuss the final draft of the suspension regulations that were sent to Town Council for review.
4. Winter daily temperature regulation:
  - a. Temperature gauge location.
  - b. Temperature notification process.
5. Pleasant Bay Alliance:
  - a. November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was held to discuss annual 5 year review.
  - b. Shellfishery:  
The SAC will update 2008 maps of specific Chatham shellfish locations in Pleasant Bay/Chatham Harbor.
6. Eider depredation plans for winter 2012-2013.
7. Propagation seed costs.
8. Any other issues that committee members may want to discuss briefly may do so here; however, no vote may be taken on these issues at this time. Any issues to be voted on must be published in a future meeting agenda and posted for public assay prior to that SAC meeting.
9. Set next meeting date.
10. Adjourn.

Submitted November 13, 2012,  
David Likos, Chairman,  
Shellfish Advisory Committee

## SCARE-AWAY LP GAS CANNONS

Multiple shots at irregular intervals during a short period of time have proven to be an extremely effective means of dispersing bird and wildlife pests. Scare-Away LP Gas Cannons can protect your investment from bird and wildlife infestation. These cannons can automatically produce harmless thunderclap bangs to disperse birds and wildlife from areas such as crops, orchards, vineyards, campuses, golf courses, fish ponds, parks, airfields, and landfills. Scare-Away LP Gas Cannons are powered by the same 5 gallon LP gas cylinders used for outdoor grills. The cost for this valuable protection – pennies a day!



### **M8 MULTI-BANG (\$385 each)**

Produces random series of single, double, and triple-shot clusters. Time between series may be adjusted from every 30 seconds to every 20 minutes. M8 Schematic

### **M4 (\$330 each)**

Produces single bangs which can be regulated from one bang every 30 seconds to one bang every 20 minutes, and uses a piezo ignition system, which operates without batteries or electricity and produces up to 200,000 ignitions. M4 Schematic

### **M3 (\$290 each)**

Produces single bangs identical to the M4, and utilizes flint ignition. Each flint produces up to 1,000 ignitions. M3 Schematic

Scare-Away LP Gas Cannon Accessories