

Shellfish Conservation Committee Minutes

DATE 3/7/2023

TIME: 6:35 PM

MEETING LOCATION: COMMUNITY ROOM

Commission Members:

Attendance: A for absent, P for present

Attendance	Name	Town	Term
A	Stephen Demelle	North Yarmouth	June 30, 2023
P	Kevin Oliver	North Yarmouth	June 30, 2024
P	Len Kaminow	North Yarmouth	June 30, 2024
P	Judy Colby-George	Yarmouth	December 31, 2023
P	Brandy Adams	Yarmouth	December 31, 2025
		Yarmouth	December 31, 2023

Staff Members:

Attendance	Name	Title/Role
P	Will Owen	Shellfish Warden
P	Randy Bates	Town Council Liaison
A	Ari Leach	Dept. of Marine Resources

Guests/Diggers : Caitlan Vultaggio, Virginia Hawkins (AmeriCorp Resilience Fellows), Andrew Feeney

Minutes –

Votes/Quorum: All final votes of the commission shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of those members present and voting provided a quorum is present. A quorum shall be deemed present if a minimum of four (4) members are present. A CHAPTER 305 10 quorum shall be required for the transaction of all business except that a smaller number can adjourn to another time.

Reviewed Minutes for Feb 7, 2023

Vote taken, 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstain.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
<p>1. DISCUSSION Warden’s Report</p> <p>See attached Warden’s report.</p> <p>Add Andrew to the Conservation Points for attending 2/7</p>		

2. DISCUSSION	Landings Report (still preliminary at time of meeting)
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2020 Yarmouth soft clam 58,837 \$164,997

2021 Yarmouth soft clam 38,434 \$140,092

2022 Yarmouth soft clam 34,861 \$99,657 (preliminary data)

DEP Harvest

Date	Pounds	Harvesters
6/26/22	2674	8
7/1/22	4338	10
7/3/22	3281	7
7/9/22	3739	10
7/10/22	3557	9
7/26/22	3047	10
7/31/22	3039	9

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE

3. DISCUSSION	Ordinance Change/Civic Licenses
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Proposed changes to Licenses in ordinance:

Definitions

Civic License: The term “Civic” refers to a group of less than or equal to 20 people who are members of a non-profit or educational organization.

Licenses

5. Notwithstanding the above stated licensing requirements, in order to enable a small group to harvest clams for the experience, the civic license provides the ability of a group of 20 individuals or fewer to collectively harvest up to 1 peck once per season. The license would have to be approved by the Warden and would be valid for 3 days upon issuance. There would be no fee for the license and the group would have to let the warden know where they will be digging.

Warden will ensure that the group meets all requirement of licensure and understands where clams can be harvested and how to check to ensure that flats are open. One adult must put their name on the license as the responsible party. The warden can refuse any party based on their discretion.

Committee discussed this change and approved the language. Judy will run it by Nat and we will vote on the change at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Review language with Nat	Judy	4/6/23

4. DISCUSSION **License Recommendation**

Motion: *The shellfish commission recommends to the Town Council the following allocation of licenses and fees for 2023.*

<i>Class</i>	<i>Subclass</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Resident</i>	4	\$600
<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Non-resident</i>	1	\$900
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>Resident</i>	30	\$50
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>Non-resident</i>	3	\$100
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>Senior Resident</i>	20	0
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>Senior Non-resident</i>	2	0
<i>Recreational</i>	<i>3-Day</i>	10/month	\$40

Moved: Len Seconded: Brandy Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

There was a lengthy discussion about these changes, the board voted on an earlier provision which maintained the level of senior recreational licenses but it did not have enough affirmative votes.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send to Council for vote in April	Judy	

5. DISCUSSION **Approved Conservation Activities**

Motion: The shellfish commission approves the following Conservation Activities and Points for 2023:

2023 Approved Conservation Activities

Activity	Example	Points
Full Tide Survey		6
Full Day Qualified Meeting	Shellfish Day at Maine Fisherman’s Forum + Report back to Shellfish Commission	4 + 2
Half Day Qualified Meeting	Shellfish Day at Maine Fisherman’s Forum + Report back to Shellfish Commission	2 +1
Qualified Meeting	State Shellfish advisory, Casco Bay Regional Shellfish + Report back to Shellfish Commission	1 + 0.5
Municipal Shellfish Commission	Attend one meeting	1

Moved: Brandy Seconded: Len Vote: 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

Reminder: Other conservation activities & meetings can be approved by the board during the year, a person just needs to come to a meeting and present their idea before the event occurs, than the board can discuss, and either approve, modify, or not approve their idea. If an idea is approved, it will be in the minutes so anyone can participate.

The appendix to the Shellfish Ordinance is updated on a yearly basis to reflect the boards intentions on conservation points. This table shall be maintained by the clerk and supersedes any other table related to conservation activities.

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Send table to clerk	Judy	

6. DISCUSSION	Review DMR Grant Proposal	
<p>Judy provided the commission with copies of the grant proposal, there we no edits or changes to be made.</p>		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Submit Grant to DMR	Judy	3/8/23

OLD BUSINESS	
<p>Caitlan is the town's Resilience Fellow for this summer and she will be working on a report about the town's Working Waterfront. She is interested in the work that the commission does and gathering data from us as her work progresses.</p> <p>She may help with the spat box surveys and our regular surveys.</p>	
NEW BUSINESS	

Next Meeting Date: April 4, 2022

Meeting will be held at the **Community Room in the Town Hall at 6:30 pm.** All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Agenda items	Proposed time	Time for discussion
1. Review minutes	6:30	5
2. Warden's report	6:35	5
3. Review landing report	6:40	10
4. Licenses (report on council action)	6:50	10
5. Spat boxes	7:00	10
6. Survey	7:10	10
7. Grant	7:20	10
8. Old business	7:30	15
9. New business	7:45	15
10. Adjourn meeting	8:00	

TIME ADJOURNED 8:10 pm



Town of Yarmouth
Marine Patrol
200 Main Street
Yarmouth, ME 04096
(207) 846-3333 Telephone (207) 846-2433 Fax

March 7, 2023, Shellfish Warden Committee Report. Officer Will Owen.

Checks range from February 8th, 2023, through March 7th, 2023.

Day Locations Checked	120
Night Locations Checked	4
Contacts Made	0
Worm Diggers	0

Incentive Program Points 2022	M: Meeting	S: Survey	RS: Regional Shellfish
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Names	M 1-13	M 2-7
Brandy Adams	1	1
Stephen Demelle	1	
Emily Farr		
Len Kaminow	1	1
Jessica Joyce		
Andrew Feeney		1
Ben Tupper		
Judy Colby-George	1	1

Commercial Harvesters Conservation Time	M: Meeting	S: Survey	RS: Regional Shellfish
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Names	M 1-13	M 2-7
Kevin Oliver	1	1
Joe Delano		