

TOWN OF IPSWICH

Shellfish Advisory Sub-Committee to the Board of Selectman
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2009

Pursuant to written notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all members, a meeting of the Town of Ipswich Shellfish Advisory Sub-Committee to the Board of Selectman was held on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 7:00 pm in room C of the Town Hall. Members present were Gary Collum, Bradford McGowan, Michael Lambros, Elizabeth Kilcoyne, Charles Surpitski, Shellfish Warden Arnold "Pick" Thistlewood and Recording Secretary Marie Rodgers.

Anthony Murawski, Wayne Castonguay, and Town Manager Robert Markel were not present.

Others in attendance: Deputy Shellfish Constable Scott LaPreste, John Pelletier, Linda Alexsor, Matt Gonet.

Call to order: Ms. Kilcoyne called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Ms. Kilcoyn submitted a copy of the rules and regulations from the Schofield Act 1934.

Citizens Queries: Linda Alexsor, 19 Juniper Street requested that the minutes be placed on the Town's web site. Ms. Rodgers will submit the request.

John Pelletier, 59 Topsfield Road initiated a discussion regarding illegal parking at Eagle Hill landing. The Board determined that when the new licenses are issued on April 1st the sticker policy will be strictly enforced. In the meantime clammers will 'spread the word' and Mr. Thistlewood will place a message on his phone. Matt Gonet suggested making the stickers more visible by printing them in a bright color; and that a sticker accompanies each clamming license when issued.

Mr. Lambros moved to enforce the parking permit requirement at Eagle Hill effective April 1, 2009. Mr. McGowan seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Surpitski moved to create new signage outlining the regulations for the use of Eagle Hill landing. Mr. Collum seconded. Mr. Surpitski amended the motion to include, money to pay for the sign would come out of the Enhancement Fund. Mr. Collum seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor of the amended motion.

Mr. Lambros agreed to work with DPW and oversee the sign color, language, purchase and installation. He will inform Mr. LaPreste of the cost.

John Pelletier initiated discussion regarding Tony Murawski's name on the shellfish brochure on the Town's web site.

Mr. Collum moved to withdraw Tony Murawski's name from the Shellfish brochure published on the Town's website. Mr. McGowan seconded. Discussion took place.

Motion failed by vote two in favor (Collum and McGowan) and one against (Lambros).

Ms. Kilcoyne reported that the BOS received a request for an aquaculture grant for eastern oysters, from resident Robert Marcarelle. The BOS responded within sixty days; he was told that the Town is not accepting any aquaculture grants, but his application will be kept on file.

Shellfish Warden Arnold Thistlewood will be placed on the February 3rd agenda.

In response to Ms. Kilcoyne request, Mr. Thistlewood agreed to speak with the clammers who are willing to volunteer for the trial run using racks and provide feedback; he will keep the Board informed.

Ms. Kilcoyne reported on the BOS decision to allow Roaring Bull flat to be open on a daily basis. Roaring Bull will be open every day from December 1 to May 1 pursuant to a legal notice in the Chronicle. Mr. Thistlewood will publicize this information on his phone message.

- Review of Shellfish Rules and Regulations Page 2 -

The Board determined that everyone should pay \$450 in full at the same time a new application is filed.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding student clammers. The Board agreed: there shall be cap of "five" for students in High School, for commercial license; \$200 a season, from 6/1 through 9/1 and \$50 for the Shellfish Fund. (When school is in session, the students focus should be at school.) Also, a work permit would be required from the Superintendent of schools for students 16 years of age and under. If they dig year round, they will be considered commercial clammers.

Recreational flats are listed on the back of the clam flat map, available at the Town Clerks office.

John Pelletier pointed out that clams harvested north of Crane Beach fall into Fox Creek area. The Board determined to change to N4 of Little Neck.

End of page 2 – "...landed prior to one-half hour following sunset" should apply to all clammers, not only commercial.

Section 3 – Resident Recreational Permits -

It was determined all clammers can sell 30 oysters, twice a week.

The definition for a calendar week is Sunday through Saturday.

The Board determined that the size limit for razor clams will remain at 5-inches and oysters will remain at 3-inches.

The Board determined licenses for residents age 60 and over for recreational clamming will be free of charge.

The Board determined to keep the recreational fee for non-residents at \$100

It was determined to insert the following sentence in the preamble "no person shall take shellfish without a permit."

And inserted end of section 3 "No person with a recreational license shall take shellfish for commercial purposes".

Discussion took place regarding illegal clamming. The Board agreed a change in regulations was needed, as well as enforcement action.

Acceptance of Minutes -Mr. Lambros moved to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2008 meeting. Mr. Collum seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

The next Shellfish Advisory Sub-Committee meeting will be February 3rd, 2009 same place, same time.

Mr. Collum moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Mr. McGowan seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Rodgers

These minutes were approved by the Board on February 3, 2009.