

Shellfish Conservation Committee
December 5, 2022
Bristol Town Office

Committee Members present: Scott Burke, Dave Cheney, Steve Lackovic, Ronald Poland, Steve Termine

Also present: Ernest Poland

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm.

Warden Report.

No report.

Student Shellfish Licenses.

Various ideas were considered on how to best transition a student commercial license to an adult commercial license.

- Increase the minimum age of student licenses and make all student licenses commercial.
- According to H. Annis, the current wording in our ordinance reads that unlimited student licenses are available all year and only for students. Although Bristol only allocates one student commercial license.
- Have all resident student commercial harvesters exempt from Part 5. (Licensing) of the ordinance. All resident student licenses held for at least 3 consecutive years are considered Class A applicants. When the Class A licensee ages out of the student license the Class A applicant will be allotted the next available resident commercial license when it becomes available. Class A applicants are not required to participate in the annual lottery.
- Employ some sort of seniority/ranking system.
- Make Student Commercial Licenses exempt, available to residents only.
- Start an apprenticeship license.

Currently, if a student license is allocated and a student does not apply for the lottery, the license, after 90 days, would be eligible for sale to anyone, resident or non-resident. The committee would like to prevent this from happening.

A mentoring Program for student harvesters was discussed. The committee would oversee the students and teach them how to care for the resource and industry.

Other Business.

It was noted that a harvester with a Bristol recreational license is digging and selling clams as a commercial harvester. Bizarro will check with DMR to see if this person has a state commercial license.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Bizarro
Shellfish Committee Secretary