

Shellfish Conservation Committee

April 3, 2017

Bristol Town Hall

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

*Also present: Katie Barvenik, Bill DeVoe, Bryant Lewis (DMR)
Jenn Hicks (PWA)*

The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm.

Minutes.

The minutes of the March meeting were unanimously approved.

DMR Report

DMR investigative findings for Pemaquid River in 2016 were reviewed and a copy of the report will be kept on file. Overall, there were reported improvements. Previous septic issues have been remediated and continuous efforts are being made for wildlife control. Proposed upgrades to several areas within the River are recommended for 2017.

Ordinance Amendments.

Committee reviewed ordinance changes suggested by DMR at their previous meeting. Most of these changes were replacing the word clam with shellfish and the word dig with harvest. Other changes recommended by DMR: move the allocation date up to allow for more approval time from DMR and to add regulatory language in various sections. Other changes approved:

Section 2, Part E. Add the word “recreational” before harvester.

Section 5, Part A, subsection 7. Replace the first paragraph with the following. “Any municipal commercial licensed harvester who has completed 12 hours of conservation work shall be considered grandfathered. Grandfathered licenses will be issued from the first (1st) business day after January 1 for a period of 28 days. Any licenses remaining after the 28 day period will be dispersed by lottery as allocated.”

Section 5, Part C. Add “Resident or non-resident commercial shellfish licenses being renewed may be purchased without performing conservation work. However, the performance of conservation work will reduce a resident or non-resident commercial shellfish license fee by \$20 for each hour worked, up to twelve (12) hours.

Other Business.

PWA and the Town of Bristol have partnered together to obtain grant money (offered by EPA) for a Pemaquid River watershed plan. This plan would cover the lower end of the River from Boyd’s Pond to the Harbor’s mouth. For competitive purposes, Hicks suggested the town put up a cash match when applying for the grant. She suggested \$2500 - \$5000. On a motion and second, it was agreed to appropriate up to \$2500 from the Shellfish Conservation account pursuant to Selectmen approval. Discussion included having other committees (Fish, Harbor, etc.) and the Town itself provide some of the money for the grant match. It was noted that Pemaquid River is used by many different entities (business, government and personal) and the financial burden could be shared by all who have a stake in the health of the River.

Conservation.

Conservation efforts will be held on May 20 & 21, 2017. On a motion and a second, all agreed to transplant seed into Schoolhouse Cove. The source of the seed is to be determined. A transplant permit application will be filed with DMR.

Adjournment at 9:02pm. The next meeting will be held on May 1 @ 7pm.
Agenda items to include: Conservation, Pemaquid River watershed plan.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Bizarro