

**Bristol Fish Committee
Minutes
Town Hall
Feb 2, 2023
7pm**

Committee members present:

Jay Crooker

Rick Poland

Marvin Farrin

Shannon Mahan

also present:

Rachel Bizarro (Town Administrator)

Peter Anderson (Natural Concepts)

Minutes from January were approved after adding that a vote was taken on closing of Pemaquid River to river herring fishing in 2023

Jay discussed conversation with Mike Brown (Maine DMR) regarding alewife harvesting by town residents. Mike mentioned how Alna and Dresden either sell harvested alewives to residents (during harvest days) or let them harvest their own (25/day). The Committee agreed that this discussion would be ongoing, as we are a few years away from harvest.

Articles to be included in the town warrant were discussed. As voted on last meeting, taking of river herring in 2023 would again be prohibited. Discussion of the addition of an article (per Mike Brown's suggestion) to indicate that when harvesting is approved, the town shall draft a plan for harvest. Rachel suggested (and drafted) two separate articles: one continuing the prohibition of alewife harvest in the Town of Bristol, and the second indicating that once harvest is approved, the town will draft the harvest plan.

Peter Anderson discussed next steps in fish ladder stonework and landscaping. Discussion of our on-site meeting last Fall with ideas for the layout of walkways around the ladder. Peter asked about any future plans for harvesting, as that may affect their plans for stonework. Rick described the concept of the harvest pool(s) at the exit of the ladder, which seemed to not interfere with any work this Spring on the ladder.

Peter also mentioned the estimate of around \$125K for remaining stonework. He said that capwork requires full access to the entire ladder (both sides).

Discussion of whether the grant funds (for a park at the ladder) are still available or not.

Further discussion of plans for areas surrounding the ladder. Peter proposes idea of using the several old stones (from old ladder) to re-create a part of the old ladder. Idea of using the stones for seating also proposed. More discussion needed, just in early planning stages now.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm

Next meeting March 2, 2023