

November 4, 2008 Shellfish Committee meeting minutes:

5:05 Called to order

Present: Nancy-Ann Meads, Ricky Macara, Paul Tasha, Alex Brown, Tony Jackett (Constable), Owen Nichols (Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies Marine Fisheries Initiative)

Alex Brown handed out Oct 7 minutes.

Motion to accept Oct 7 minutes made by Nancy-Ann Meads, seconded by Paul Tasha

Open for discussion- unanimously voted to accept minutes 4-0

Alex Brown will submit hard copy to Doug Johnstone (Town Clerk)

Owen Nichols reported on the Fishing for Energy project- discarded/derelict fishing gear can be brought to Transfer Station

Constable's Report (Tony Jackett):

-Beds opened Nov 2- 100 people went clamming

-Lots of seed clams, littlenecks- encouraging sign of stocking success at both sides of breakwater, off east end

-Surf clams: long-term goals are to repopulate historical areas in Cape Cod Bay between Truro and Provincetown- could adult surf clams be 'planted' in this area?

Paul Tasha followed up by noting lots of seed surf clams off New Beach recently.

Noticed that shadow of the boat makes small clams move in response along bottom using foot to flip over. Lots of steamers (~3/8") in coat of green algae along bottom. Could these be transplanted inside the harbor? Spawn coming from Hatches Harbor? Many tiny sea clams too. Striped bass eating them? Behaving differently that when they pursue sand eels. Eight out of 10 shells have drill holes from snails. 18 moon snails/square yard. A few quahogs out there too. Market for moon snails? Moon snail control?

Discussion: Could there be bull raking off Long Point/ Beach Point over to New Beach? For quahogs or sea clams? Tongs? If the resource out there comes back, how could it be harvested? Also discussed artificial reefs out there as a possibility. Tony Jackett noted that a regional Provincetown/Truro management plan could allow local management of harvest (as opposed to DMF management). Look for grant to fund regional efforts? Artificial reefs, etc. for both Truro/Provincetown use/management? Proposal for town meeting article for additional funds to fund Provincetown/Truro enhancement project? Owen Nichols will research grants, artificial reef literature. Boats, equipment available for projects? The barge from Chatham?

Alex Brown circulated Oct. 14 request from Paul Dion to place John Baldwin's' name on his Area 2 Grant #7

Motion by Alex Brown to accept request, seconded by Paul Tasha. Unanimous 4-0.

Motion by Alex Brown: adjourn at 6:12, seconded by Paul Tasha. Next meeting on Dec. 2

Submitted by Alex Brown, December 4, 2008