

December 2, 2008 Shellfish Committee meeting minutes:

5:08 Called to order

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

Alex Brown handed out Nov 4 minutes

Made change in the following sentence: “Tony Jackett noted that a town-developed management plan could allow local management of harvest (as opposed to DMF management).” – changed ‘town’ to ‘regional (Provincetown/Truro)’

Motion to accept Nov 4 minutes made by Paul Tasha, seconded by Mel Cote
Open for discussion – unanimously voted to accept minutes 5-0
Alex Brown will submit hard copy to Doug Johnson (Town Clerk)

Owen Nichols reported on review of DMF draft artificial reef plan, PCCS Autumn Lecture Series featuring local fishermen on December 11, 7-9 PM.

Constable’s Report (Tony Jackett): Could we submit proposal to Sea Grant or other entity for sea clam initiative, regional management plan development? Protection for eelgrass beds, etc. One month into season, people getting their limit. Quahog beds very productive.

New Business: No applications. Discussion: Paul Tasha noted eelgrass growth off New Beach, potential area to seed bay scallops? Historical juvenile cod habitat? Committee discussed history of town/state sea clam management efforts in the context of future regional management plan development. What direction do we want to go in 2009? Committee members will bring list of potential projects to discuss at next meeting. Paul Tasha noted Commercial Fisheries News May 2007 article on near-bottom mussel culture off Martha’s Vineyard and potential for similar projects here. Paul Tasha will follow up on project outcomes and report at January meeting.

Motion by Paul Tasha: adjourn at 6:15, seconded by Mel Cote. Next meeting on Jan. 6.