

**Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.
Community Room, 4 Fairgrounds Road
*HSAB meeting are video-recorded**

Members present: Andy Lowell, Dave Bossi, Dave Fronzuto,
Peter Brace, Ginger Andrews, Tom Szydlowski

Members Absent: Dan Pronk

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept: Tara Riley

Others: Kona Hosier, Ted Lambrecht

CALL TO ORDER

5:03 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 6-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of Dec. 19, 2020

Unanimously approved, 6-0

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No report.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff

Ms. Riley reported that there were 15 to 20 commercial scallops
boats currently fishing, two in Madaket Harbor, the rest in

Nantucket Harbor. She added that all single-limit boats are in by 10:30-11:30 a.m. and double-limit boats slightly later. She reported that the scallopers haven't lost any fishing days to cold or bad weather.

Ms. Riley reported that in the hatchery, her crew is readying algae for shellfish production and getting the equipment ready, and doing repairs to the hatchery.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Live-aboard regulations revisions

Mr. Fronzuto said he emailed a last-minute change to Mr. Brace who said he would find it and make the change. Mr. Lowell asked the HSAB if emphasizing protecting the environment in its recommendations to the harbormaster would be a good idea. Mr. Fronzuto said enforcement of the current regulation prohibiting subletting of moorings would prevent the Airbnb-ing of liveaboard boats. Mr. Brace agreed but said that the regulations should specifically state that liveaboard boats can't be used as Airbnbs.

Ms. Andrews asked if Ms. Lucey had signed off on these recommendations. Mr. Brace said the board needed to perfect its recommendations before giving them to Ms. Lucey.

Mr. Lowell said he would hand deliver the HSAB's recommendations to Ms. Lucey. The board agreed that hand delivery is the way to go.

The HSA voted unanimously, 6-0, to direct Mr. Brace to finalize the liveaboard recommendations and boat registration form.

Land Bank Petrel Landing plans - Update

The board praised Mr. Brace's letter to the Land Bank. Mr. Brace asked the board for clarification on the unattended language of the Land Bank's proposal. Mr. Lowell said it is "no unattended motor

vessels”, not dinghies and a 30-minute for motor vessels. Ms. Andrews said, having been unclear on this topic, that she understood now. She also asked for clarification on how the Land Bank determines what commercial uses it allows on its properties. Mr. Brace explained that the Land Bank uses its mission as a guide when determining commercial uses of its property. Mr. Bossi explained that his proposal of the 40-foot western end of the proposed dinghy dock be open for use by anyone, commercial, private or public that want to drop off their catch and or pick up supplies. Mr. Fronzuto agreed. He added that Mr. Brace should add language in the the letter making the offer of the HSAB’s willingness to meet with the Land Bank Commission to help it revise its proposal for Petrel Landing.

In response to Mr. Brace’s language on the property owners on Commercial Wharf against commercial activity at Petrel Landing and the words “probably not living here” during the off season, Mr. Lowell said he didn’t want to push the luck of the board and the Land Bank, and said the board should ease into this situation. In doing so, he didn’t want charter fishermen to construe the west end of the dinghy dock as a place for their customers to board and leave their vessels. Mr. Fronzuto said he didn’t think this would be an issue, adding that the HSAB should ask for as much it needed from the Land Bank.

Mr. Lowell said it would also be informative to know the Land Bank’s intentions for its recent purchase of 15 Commercial St. and also that this could be a good place for another public boat ramp. Mr. Bossi said he thought the HSAB shouldn’t get ahead of the Land Bank on their new property for which they currently don’t have plans for. Mr. Fronzuto suggested that Mr. Brace put in the letter a request of the Land Bank to include the HSAB in planning the use of 15 Commercial St.

The board asked Mr. Brace to make these two changes; meeting with the Land Bank on its Petrel Landing proposal and requesting to be included in the planning of 15 Commercial St.

Mr. Fronzuto noted that commercial scallopers have been

unloading scallops at Petrel Landing for a long time, including during the current season. Ms. Andrews said currently, there is a rope across the entrance to this landing with a couple of boulders and there is gravel on the landing.

Mr. Fronzuto said this effort is good first step for the HSAB. Mr. Bossi asked that the letter should say commercial/public use for the dinghy dock and make the loading spot for public use.

Oyster lease permit review – Discussion

Ms. Riley, when asked by Mr. Lowell, said she didn't have any comments on this issue on behalf of the NRD, but she said would ask for an update from NRD director Jeff Carlson.

Mr. Lambrecht reported that he was continuing to work on his boat and that his motor now works, the steering is functional and the wiring is being worked on. Mr. Lowell asked when he would have his boat ready to launch, but Mr. Lambrecht didn't have an answer. Mr. Lambrecht said he was still trying to get a hold of Mr. Carlson to see where he stands.

Excessive sand in scallops/dredging plan - Discussion

Mr. Lowell said he would like see more research done and he wants to spark people to do that research, and to see if the Town might do a pilot project removing sand near an eelgrass bed in the harbor. Mr. Fronzuto said he didn't know of any existing dredging projects focused on improving eelgrass beds. He added that he thought it was possible to get a permit to dredge to help eelgrass and shellfish. Ms. Riley said she would find out if any such projects were happening in region. Mr. Fronzuto admitted he didn't know how such a dredging project might work. Mr. Lowell said small, diver-directed suction tubes could be used to dredge specific parts of an eelgrass bed. Mr. Lowell suggested that such an effort could be a small pilot project. Mr. Fronzuto asked Ms. Riley if she she could ask eelgrass biologists about this idea. Ms. Riley said she would speak with the eelgrass biologists about this. Mr. Lowell thanked the board and Ms. Riley for hearing his idea

and for agreeing to help look into it.

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

Hazardous materials - Update

Mr. Lowell reported that Toscana Corp is the only dumpster provider that didn't agree to put the toxic materials warning stickers on their dumpsters. He added that he would be seeking an update on the status of the sticker at the next meeting of the Nantucket Shellfish Association.

Mr. Lowell asked what the HSAB could do to create more awareness about the excessive use of fertilizers blamed for algae blooms in the harbors. He added that he's heard from a lot of his constituents that the Town's existing fertilizer regulations aren't strong enough. Ms. Andrews suggested creating a "Lawns of Shame" page on a social media platform.

NEW BUSINESS

Update on Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee efforts

Mr. Brace reminded the board that the Town's coastal resilience consultant would be presenting to the HSAB at the board's Jan. 19 meeting. He added that he would be sending the HSAB links to other Town board meetings at which the consultant would be or had already presented at so the members could get a feel for what questions to ask and comments to make.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 6-0, at 6:18 p.m.

Future Meetings:

Jan. 19 and Feb. 2

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary