

## Shellfish Advisory Council Meeting

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Virtual – Via Teams App

9am-11am

**Council Members Present:** Kevin Brodie, Dan Curtis, Mike Danforth, Fiona de Koning, Glen Melvin, Ryan McPherson, Lewis Pinkham, Jessica Joyce, Amanda Lyons, Dick Douty, Charlie Tetreault

**Council members absent:** Scott Moody, Tony Delano

**DMR Staff in Attendance:** Kohl Kanwit, Sheena Glover, David Miller, Marcy Nelson, Hannah Annis, Bryant Lewis, Ari Leach

**9:03** Call to order by Kohl

**9:05** Review of minutes -Motion by council to review and accept minutes from previous meeting via email vote after meeting. Motion carried.

**9:07 Agenda Item 1:** Nominations- Ms. Joyce asked that we provide a broader scope for how to solicit ShAC nominees. Mr. Curtis stated that due to time constraints this should not be changed for the current vacancies. Ms. de Koning motioned for going forward the council has a more detailed procedure for soliciting nominations. Mr. Brodie seconded. Motion carried.

**9:12 Agenda Item 2:** Open Council seat nominations-

Mr. Pinkham nominated Ron Parritt for harvester (eastern Maine) Mr. Curtis seconded adding that Mr. Parritt has acted Vice-chair of the shellfish committee of Steuben for years. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstain, motion carried.

Joan McDonald was nominated for harvester (western Maine) council discussion noting strong dedication and has previously worked with DMR on industry issues. Motion carried, none opposed.

Council motion to reappoint Scott Moody for depuration seat. Motion carried. Unanimous

Council motion to reelect Dick Douty for dealer seat (western Maine). Motion carried. Unanimous

Science Seat Nominations received by DMR: Dr. Brian Beal of Downeast Institute, Kyle Pepperman of Downeast Institute, Marissa McMahan of Manomet. Ms. De Koning stated that she has worked with Ms. McMahan, adding that she would be a great addition. Mr. Curtis, Mr. Brodie, and Ms. Joyce all voiced support for Ms. McMahan. Motion made to nominate Ms. McMahan

7 votes in favor, 3 against; motion carried

Motion for Dr. Beal to be the science seat nomination; 2 votes in favor, 8 votes against, motion failed

Motion for Kyle Pepperman to be the science seat nomination; 1 vote in favor, 9 against, motion failed.

**9:32 Agenda Item 3:** Towns Adjustment to COVID-19 pandemic

DMR/ShAC Industry support during COVID-19 pandemic

Marketing product during COVID-19 pandemic

Ms. Kanwit gave examples of alternatives such as peddling shellfish from home, becoming a dealer and the difficulties associated with dealer certification. Ms. Joyce asked what avenues are there for harvesters to become a dealer? Why are there different standards for oysters and lobsters to be sold at venues other than their homes, for example, from parking lots? Ms. Kanwit responded that lobsters are not part of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP), they are not eaten raw or whole. Oysters and other shellfish are bivalves and pose a unique risk and require a dealer license for anything other than home sales. Council asked what about landings reports from home sales? Ms. Kanwit answered that home sales are not considered in landings figures but likely don't represent a large portion of landings for any species. Dealers must keep receiving logs for all purchased from harvesters. Mr. Curtis asked how can you do traceability from home sales? Ms. Kanwit elaborated that home sales are considered outside the NSSP guidelines. It is a state provision to allow retail sales and is considered a "buyer beware" situation.

**9:50 Agenda Item 4: Waldoboro projects During COVID-19 pandemic - Glen Melvin**

Predator nets were put out and vandalized. Mr. Melvin proposed to DMR to fine \$50 thousand for vandalizing. Subsequently was informed that is not possible but they can permanently ban them from holding a Waldoboro license.

They voted to pay 52 harvesters \$200.00 each to plant 50 lbs of seed.

Lincoln County Television did a show highlighting what the town of Waldoboro has done to assist the shellfish industry during the Covid-19 pandemic. Interviews with the Town manager Julie Keizer, Shellfish dealer Abden Simmons, and Shellfish harvester Glen Melvin. Discussion of the Medomak project, and all that went into cleaning up the river for clam harvesting.

The town built an upweller to increase larvae in the Medomak. This float has 4 rows of 6 compartments to hold spawning clams. ([See Attached](#))

**10:20 Agenda Item 5: Marcy Nelson addressed LPA's for Municipalities.**

Mr. Tetreault spoke about Mike Pinkham from Gouldsboro and Steuben having requested an exemption from LPAs for municipalities. Ms. Nelson stated that in order to get an exemption it would require a statute change by the Legislature. Audience member stated they believe it is redundant. Another audience member stated they believe it should be put through the Shellfish Management Program not through the traditional LPA process in the Aquaculture Division. Ms. Nelson added that using lobster pounds for aquaculture has been an active discussion. Mr. Brodie asked for clarification as to why towns needed more permits, if they already have permits to have town docks, floats and piers. Ms. Nelson reiterated according to state statute, that it would be adding aquaculture gear and therefore considered aquaculture. Mr. Melvin commented that Waldoboro had a 6 week wait for permit, and from a harvester's perspective that is too long. Mr. Curtis spoke of the Army Corp of Engineer's permit has no deadline. Ms. Nelson mentioned the LPA is a yearly renewal, and again suggesting making changes would require going to Legislature for a revised fee structure or exemptions.

**10:53** Ms. Kanwit stated that the two remaining agenda items could be tabled to allow the LPA discussion to continue. Ms. Joyce mentioned items to be added to the next meeting carried over from previous meeting. Ms. Joyce also added the deadline for the RFP for the Fishermen's Forum.

**10:53 Work Plan- Tabled**

- A. Working committee for lab testing - Tabled
- B. Rain gauge procurement project- Tabled
- C. Alpha-numeric system for identifying harvest areas –Dan Curtis Tabled
- D. Outreach programs (CSI-Maine) - Tabled
- E. The Learning Network – Gabby Hillyer -Tabled
- F. Economics work to requested presentation list - Keith Evans- Tabled
- G. Closure notification changes- Tora Johnson-Tabled