

Town of Tisbury

Natural Resource Committee

Minutes – December 11 2019

Attendance: Sally Rizzo, Jeff Canha, Tom Robinson, Matt Hobart, David Hearn, James Tilton, Billy Sweeney, John Kollet, Roger Moffet, Michael Baptiste, Laura Rose, Danielle Ewart, Shellfish Constantable and Kim Elias, Natural Resource Admin Asst.

Also present: Melina Loberg, Lynn Fracker and David Stanwood

Call to order at 5:01pm

Sally Rizo welcomed new committee member Roger Moffat and alternate committee member Laura Rose. Kim Elias will assume clerk responsibilities on behalf of the NRC.

- 1) Public Comment :** Lynn Fraker asked that public comment be moved to the end of the meetings moving forward to allow public to comment on subject on the agenda. She also asked that she would like to see subjects on the agenda such as Budget, Warrant Articles, Tashmoo Dredge, Owen Park Pier Design, New Harbor Patrol Boat, Shellfish Closures.
- 2) MA Environmental Policy Act visit re: Martha's Vineyard Shipyard :** The purpose of the visit was as a site inspection based on the Shipyards proposed project in build a marina on the lagoon side of their property. Members of the general public were passing their comment and opinions to the MEPA and have also posted comment on their website. Several members of the Committee attended the site visit. James Tilton stated that he was in attendance for part of the inspection and that his comments at the site visit were his personally and that he in no way was representing the NRC. The Shipyard were contacted and asked if they would like to make a presentation of their project to the NRC, however James Hale stated that the Shipyard were not yet ready to do so but would be happy to do so at a later date. Sally asked that committee members review the copies of correspondence to the MEPA in the agenda packet for future discussion.
- 3) Pending Aquaculture Applications :** Jeff Canha recused himself from discussion regarding this subject. Danielle Ewart reported that there were two pending Aquaculture Applications. However, upon her review of the applications, she deemed them incomplete. The applications were subsequently returned to the applicants to give them the opportunity to resubmit with corrections. The Town Administrator's office sent letters to the applicants stating their incompleteness and outlined the deficiencies. The applicants will not be required to resubmit the application fee. There was

further discussions regarding the time frame for response, process, recommendation from the NRC and final approval from Selectmen. The Aquaculture Regulations and submission checklist were distributed for review and further discussion.

- 4) Shellfish closure update :** Danielle Ewart stated that the most recent closures by the State were due poor water quality which consists of 25 acres in the Lagoon (outside Prime Marina). This area was closed before, was retested and did not come back clean. There was also expanded closure in Lake Tashmoo. All closures were due to run off in the areas. Danielle is working with Lagoon Pond Association to try and obtain some funding for more in depth water sampling to determine the actual type of bacteria causing the contamination and what can be done to help mitigate the problem. Danielle stated that she would provide data to members if anyone request it. There was discussion regarding catch basin areas and blocked grates that may be causing some of the problem. It was the understanding that the catch basins are supposed to be maintained by the Town. DPW will be contacted to ask them to remove and cleanout the catch basins on a more regular basis. Melinda Loberg stated that the EPA are conducting a study using the Town of Tisbury to look at techniques that can be developed in engineering design to fix three down town areas. The Town is working actively to find solutions for excessive run off.

- 5) Future Agenda Items :** Subjects will include the following:

- Owen Park Pier
- Harbor Dredge Project
- Tashmoo Dredge
- Finalize Mission Statement/Charge
- Aquaculture Regulations
- MV Shipyard Project – ongoing
- Monthly reports from Shellfish Constable and Harbormaster

Committee Chair stated that public comment moving forward will remain the same. She explained that the current committee was large and that there are quite of number of agenda items that need to be covered. She welcomed any email comments from the general public and that they may request topics of importance and relevance for future agenda items.

(There was informal discussion and overview by Selectman Loberg regarding the recent application by the R M Packer for their property to be a Designated Port Area and impact if any to the Town Waterways. She gave a brief overview of Packer's Wind Farm Terminal Project.)

Meeting adjourn at 6:25pm.