

Town of Wareham

Marine Resources Commission

Meeting date: August 9, 2017

Attendees: Larry Bearse, Warren Hall, Jr., Don Jepson, Jim Smith, Dick Wheeler, Garry Buckminster, Alan Slavin, Steve Patterson, Bob Morse, Jim Bonnar, Mary McKenzie (reporter, Wareham Courier), Matthew Bernat (editor, WarehamWeek)

The meeting opened at 7:05 PM because of the difficulty finding parking spaces due to a baseball game at the Wareham High School field adjacent to the Multi-Services Building .

Garry Buckminster e-mailed at 6:00 PM that he would be delayed because of his need to supervise an animal control issue -- an osprey hooked to a line in a tree.

An overview was given for those in attendance, i.e. brief description of the Wareham Marine Resources mission and goals. Also mentioned was that Wareham was the first town to have a Harbor Management Plan and that Wareham was the first on the East Coast to have a No Discharge harbor.

Highlights of guest speaker Steve Patterson's work experience was shared with those present:

- “Oyster Steve” Patterson – grew up in Wellfleet
- Co-owner with Dave Paling of the Crooked River Shellfish Farm and aquaculture site in the Wareham River next to Long Beach
- 20+ years experience in the field of aquaculture science and shellfish management
- Shellfish field manager at a Rhode Island university from 2006-2017 where he co-ordinated the R.I. Oyster Gardening Restoration and Enhancement (R.I.-OGRE) Program
- Prior to co-ordinating and managing the RI-OGRE program Steve was Business Manager for a Wellfleet shellfish co-operative that had 25 members
- Taught environmental science and biology at Dennis Regional HighSchool
- Featured in articles in *Yankee Magazine*, *RI Monthly*, and *On the Water*

Subsequent to his presentation everyone present agreed that Steve's presentation was excellent – both educational and entertaining.

Garry Buckminster arrived at 8:45 PM just in time to present what his department is doing regarding oyster and quahog propagation and restoration.

After Garry's presentation a brief synopsis followed regarding the Governor's Dredging Listening Session -South Shore that took place Aug 2nd in Plymouth that was attended by Larry Bearse, Don Jepson, Alan Slavin and Derek Sullivan. The reporters at the MRC meeting expressed considerable interest in that meeting and interviewed Alan Slavin, Larry Bearse and Don Jepson.

Steve's presentation and the information shared about the Baker-Polito's Dredging Listening Session-South Shore resulted in 2 stories in the Wareham Courier and one story in in Wareham Week.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

I attest these are the true MRC minutes of the meeting held Aug 9, 2017

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald H. Jepson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Donald H. Jepson, Chairman

Please cc: Board of Selectmen, DNR Office.