

Town of Wareham

Marine Resources Commission

Meeting date: December 9, 2015

Attendees: Larry Bearse, Warren Hall Jr., Don Jepson, Jim Smith, Dick Wheeler, Garry Buckminster

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM

The meeting notes from the November meeting were read and approved.

Because the harbormaster was in attendance, answers to the questions that were raised at the November meeting were forthcoming.

Garry provided an overview of the oyster aquaculture that is being done in town and his efforts using an upweller to grow oysters to restock areas for holders of non-commercial shellfish licenses. He also provided information about his plans for restocking quahogs sourced from polluted areas of the Taunton River. He indicated that the quahogs cleanse themselves after a period of time after being moved to clean water.

When questioned about whether he felt that someone from his department should be designated full time shellfish officer, Garry shared information about a possible reorganization being considered by the selectmen and the town administrator for a department of natural resources. He indicated that there are a number of changes under consideration and that alternatives are not finalized.


Garry also answered questions about his plans for former shellfish grants that are not currently being used. He indicated that once a grant is not renewed that the Department of Fisheries has to resurvey the grant area and give its blessing before it can be used again as a shellfish grant.

Other topics that Garry shared information on included dredging, the Onset Pier, the Onset boat ramp and Zecco Marina's plans for converting to floating boatslips.

Larry Bearse indicated that he will provide a sample of the communication form he is proposing at our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

I attest these are the true MRC minutes of the meeting held December 9, 2015.



Donald H. Jepson, Chairman

Please cc: Board of Selectmen, Harbormaster Office.