

MEETING MINUTES

Middleborough-Lakeville Herring Fishery Commission

10/1/19 Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Middleborough Town Hall, Middleborough, MA.
Recorded by MCCAM.

Wardens Present: Tom Barron, Ron Burgess, David Cavanaugh, Brad Day.

Observers Present:

Visitors: Bruce Chase, Sylvester Zienkiewicz, Jesse Medford.

Unanticipated:

New Business:

1. Motion by Ron to accept the minutes of the September 3 meeting. Second: Brad.
Unanimous.
2. Motion by Dave C. to recommend Carol Carson for appointment to one of the warden positions. Second: Ron. Unanimous. Motion by Dave C. to recommend Brian Holman, Bruce Chase and Wally Glendye as Volunteer Observers for one year. Second: Ron. Unanimous.
3. Several members will attend the River Herring Network meeting in Andover. Dave C. will invite herring counters as well as members.
4. Discussion involved the weed and muck buildup at the top of the Wareham St. and Oliver Mill fish ladders. Suggestions ranged from hand clearing, to a machine which blows muck from the bottom, to a dredge operation as happened in the early 2000s. Consensus was to attempt hand clearing on Friday October 11 and Saturday October 12. Ron reported contacting Marine Fisheries seeking solutions to water seeping around the boards in the ladder. He suggested possibly aluminum tracks epoxy to the sides of the channels.

Old Business:

1. -- River and lake are dropping due to diminished rainfall.
 - A small number of fry were seen in the ponds.
 - A recent Facebook discussion intimated that the dam was closed and Rep. Orrall contacted the water dept's. to open it. A check with New Bedford and Taunton revealed that the dam has been open since last fall, as we thought, with only two boards in the bottom to prevent sand migration on the Lakeville side. On 5/23/19 a third board was added, and removed on 7/29/19.

-- The dam management group met. Michelle Rodrick from MA Div. of Ecological Restoration (river restoration) reported Sen. Rodrigues earmarked funds for a river/lake study. The group stressed that it needs to be pushed as a regional response to a regional issue. After the meeting, Tom gave Michelle a tour of the river and dam.

-- Fish ladder maintenance still needs to be scheduled.

2. A. Bill Napolitano (SRPEDD) suggested a graduate student, Bridgett Parkerson, from Wheaton College to assist with the Natural Heritage (turtle) permit. Ron met with her on 9/13 and provided information. He will introduce her to the appropriate Outback, federal and state contacts.

B. Dave C. sent the letter requesting the formalized line-item invoice payment policy to the Middleborough Town Manager. His assistant responded by requesting a meeting with Dave C. and Ron. He was directed to contact the chairman to schedule a meeting. No addition response, or response to our original inquiry, was received. Janet is working on the kiosk sign.

C. Contractors are working at Oliver Mill. They have blocked several raceways and appear to be doing masonry work.

D. SRPEDD is working on updated plans for the sediment trap. We may need a Natural Heritage permit for this project. We can probably use the \$3500.00 earmark for this project.

Communications and Bills

1. The Assawompset Pond Complex Management group meeting was moved to October 11 at 9:00 AM. We will plan to attend.

2. Financial roll-ups were presented.

Motion to adjourn by Ron. Second: Brad. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.