



Bank Building, 20 Centre Street, Middleborough, Massachusetts 02346

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Location: Middleboro Town Hall Selectmen's Room

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM

Wardens Present: Tom Barron, David Cavanaugh, Emily Ryan, Brad Day, Ron Burgess
Carol "Krill" Carson (arrived at 7:06)

Absent: Bill Orphanos

Observers Present: Bruce Chase

Visitors:

Unanticipated:

Recommendation was made to send a note of appreciation to Lake CAM for the follow-up documentary regarding the weed removal project. Emily mentioned she will send a not to Lake CAM and ask Bill to post the documentary to the Herring Facebook page.

New Business:

1. Dave made motion to accept minutes as corrected.
Ron Second. Unanimous.
2. Conversation surrounding a meeting that was attended by SRPEDD and town members at Old DPW site. Dave had emailed Herring Commission bringing this meeting to their attention in the previous week and it was discussed that the Herring Commission should have been included due to the meeting location and topic.
Tom agreed and mentioned he would discuss Herring Commission inclusion with DPW Committee Chair, Steven McKinnon. Bruce Chase offered attending the meetings to represent the Herring Commission if we were to be included.

Old Business

1. a. Tom has been between the lakes the past few weeks with no fry or Herring sightings at the dam. Tom confirmed water flow is still good, but level went down about four inches. Currently above target level.

Dave added Wareham Street is about Springtime level currently. And has also not seen any Herring sightings.

b. Tom stated it is a tough time of year for any work due to cold but early Springtime would be good time to look for maintenance needs. Continue to add this item to the agenda.

Brad added that last year we were going to attempt to clear out the weeds at the Wareham Street ladder, we could tackle that in the Spring.

Discussion began about the previous work that was completed around 2001. Weeds were removed in various places. And the possibility of hiring a company that is currently doing work at the Cape Cod ladder was discussed.

Discussion then led to previous water level, storms, including the flooding of 2010 and the impact on the herring. Dave mentioned in 2007, New Bedford scooped sand out of the river downstream.

2. a. Ron confirmed the bill for C&D and the bill for John Crane were both paid last month. Item for next month's agenda should be discussion of seeking new line-item or carry over line-item.

Tom mentioned he received a letter from Helen Zincavage (SRPEDD) trying to understand cost per acre for the work with the Ecoharvester.

Ron added that the cost was not decided by acre, we should provide Helen with a business card so she can speak directly with the company.

Some other questions posed to Tom in letter from Helen included, where on the river we had the weeds removed? How wide is the Ecoharvester? Total cost? On-shore disposal cost?

Tom discussed dam meeting that he attended today, water levels are still high, and bascule is still open and flowing well. They will be taking fates of between Quittacas and Little Quittacas which keep herring from flowing through.

b. Tom mentioned he will be attending the APC meeting tomorrow at 9am held at the Lakeville Police Department.

Ron mentioned Nancy Yeatts reached out to him asking for support at a meeting surrounding budget for rangers. More budget is needed due to an increase in minimum wage. Nancy will be asking for increased funding.

Discussion began surrounding funding and plans surrounding dams, and flooding possibilities at Long Pond. Packets of plans for sediment trap have been distributed with no response.

Ron asked if it is worthwhile to send plans to Senators? Or a video of the Ecoharvester?

Tom suggested maybe send out the video first and have the plans ready to go if interested. Tom volunteered sending email to the following political figures with the video attached.

Senator Roderick

Senator Pacheco

Representative Keating

Representative Auchincloss

Dave made motion for Tom to send email as mentioned above.

Brad Second. Unanimous.

Communications and Bills

Tom asked for someone to pay electric bill while he is away on vacation. Ron offered.

Brad made motion to adjourn.

Second by Ron. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm

