

# MEETING MINUTES

## Middleborough-Lakeville Herring Fishery Commission

1/7/20 Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Middleborough Town Hall, Middleborough, MA.  
Recorded by MCCAM.

Wardens Present: Tom Barron, Ron Burgess, David Cavanaugh, Bill Orphan, Emily Ryan.

Observers Present: Janet MacCausland, Louise Dery-Wells.

Visitors: Robert Barboza, Carol "Krill" Carson.

### Unanticipated:

1. Dave and Ron reported they will be unable to attend the next meeting.

### New Business:

1. Motion by Ron to accept the minutes of the December 3 meeting. Second: Tom.  
Unanimous.
2. Motion by Ron to nominate the current slate of officers for the coming year. Bill as chairman; Tom as vice chair; Dave as secretary. Second: Emily. No other nominations.  
Unanimous.
3. Louise expressed concern over the Wareham St. ladder water quality, water levels, retention time in the ladder and possible disease spread. She informally spoke with the DPW and Wastewater Dept. head about removal of the Wareham St. dam. Discussion was split over benefits and detractions of removing the dam.
4. Discussion involving defining our role at Oliver Mill Park. The original headwalls and gates have deteriorated to the point of non-existence and must be rebuilt. We control the sluice gates because nobody else ever has. Our water control in sluiceways is for herring passage and not park aesthetics. The park director previously mentioned that he does nothing regarding control of water flow. Motion by Ron to take emergency action as necessary to block sluice gates when the fish arrive, if the town has not taken action to replace them. Second: Dave.  
Unanimous.
5. Motion by Ron to accept the town report entry as amended. Second: Tom. Unanimous.
6. We were invited to participate in the town's climate change vulnerability assessment. Dave, Krill and Tom will represent the Commission.



7. Tom and Dave attended the December 10 dam management group. Lake levels were presented. The grant for flood management studies was discussed.

8. Tom attended the December 11 Assawompset Pond Complex management group. Water control issues and the grant for flood management studies were discussed. The group will meet monthly for the next several months as a grant management working group. Tom, Dave, and Ron will attend. Dave and Tom will not be able to make the next group due to another meeting.

9. The state ethics test is required this year. Lakeville notified the Commission. All members were reminded to send the acknowledgement receipt and completion certificate to the Lakeville Town Clerk. We assume a notice from Middleborough will be forthcoming.

**Old Business:**

1. The lakes are coming up and are at spring level. No fry were seen since November and the dam is fully open.

2. a. Bridgett is continuing work on the Natural Heritage permit for the weed removal and the sediment trap.

b. Janet presented one of the two kiosk signs. Ron will place it in the Oliver Mill kiosk. Janet will order another sign for the Wareham St. kiosk. She will be reimbursed from the grant account.

c. No additional information.

**Communications and Bills**

1. Financial rollups were presented.

Motion to adjourn by Tom. Second: Ron. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.