

MEETING MINUTES

Middleborough-Lakeville Herring Fishery Commission

7/2/19 Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM. Middleborough Town Hall, Middleborough, MA.
Recorded by MCCAM.

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

Observers Present: Louise Dery-Wells, Janet MacCausland.

Unanticipated:

1. Ron presented a brochure for the Mass. Outdoor Expo on September 22.
2. Bill reported seeing a weed puller from Solitude Lake Management in action at a Massasoit State Park pond and provided photos. It seemed to work well.

New Business:

1. Motion by Tom to accept the minutes of the June 4 meeting. Second: Ron. Unanimous.
2. Discussion was requested re: Dick Turner's comments last meeting about the Assawompset Spillway being too high to allow proper flow into the river. There is nothing we can do about the spillway. We need a watershed study to help determine if dam levels should be changed.
3. Discussion was requested re: Dick Turner's comments last meeting about keeping as much land as possible at the DPW and a cranberry bog near Hannafords for off loading Ecoharvester material. There should be as much open space as possible after the DPW move and on the adjacent former Nemasket Construction land. Runoff needs to be controlled.
4. Final wording of Janet's proposed sign was discussed. The sign, if 2'x3' could be placed in the kiosk or in a stand-alone stand easily. Motion by Ron to accept the wording as discussed. Second: Tom. Unanimous. Janet was commended for an excellent job.
5. Detailed discussion of a drone purchase will be held for future discussion.
6. Ron and Dave C. met with the Middleborough Town Manager to discuss specific actions needed to implement the goals voted at the last meeting. The goals and steps will be incorporated into a town plan.

Old Business:

1. a. ~~Tom and Ron~~ attended the June 11 dam group meeting. The cities are closing parts of Bay 1 and 5 at the Assawompset dam, which should drop the river a bit.

- b. Water levels are high for this time of year.
- c. No herring were seen in the river, at the Long Point culvert, or at the Snake River culvert recently.
- d. Fish ladder maintenance should be scheduled.
- e. Ron cleared some weeds at the top of the Wareham St. ladder.
- f. Brad reported that the tree down above Old Bridge St. should be cleared back as it will trap debris and cause passage problems.

2. a. The Notice of Intent has been filed. A joint hearing with Middleborough and Lakeville Conservation Commissions has been set for July 10. Motion by Dave C. to reimburse Ron for expenditure of \$675.44 in connection with the filing fees, as presented, to be split equally between the Middleborough and Lakeville line item appropriations. Second: Tom. Unanimous.

Dave C. wanted it on record that having to obtain a death certificate to prove to Natural Heritage that Leola Freitas died over 30 years ago, when the property in question is still within the family and postal returns were signed for by the surviving family, is totally stupid.

Steve Hurley from the Fish & Wildlife SE office suggested we talk to John Crane, the Cooter guru. We are required to have a state certified Cooter spotter and we were unable to get pro-bono volunteers or any other paid proposal. Crane submitted a proposal for \$1800.00 for two days of work, and to train volunteers under his supervision to spot Cooters on the Ecoharvester and at the dump sites. Motion by Tom to pay Crane \$1800.00. Second: Brad. Unanimous.

- b. The Oliver Mill kiosk is finished for a cost of \$7700.00 from town insurance.
- c. Ron noted that the Park Dept. keeps pouring rock dust into the washouts at Oliver Mill, and the washouts continue. This is not fixing the problem.
- d. The sand trap preliminary work is ongoing with SRPEDD. Bill Napolitano reported that he has a line on some funding.

Communications and Bills

- 1. Financial roll ups were received.
- 2. Mitzi Hollenbeck (Lakeville Selectman) was trying to obtain a grant for a river study, but the grant was not funded.

Motion to adjourn by Tom. Second: Dave C. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.