

Shellfish Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2016- DMR Augusta

Members in Attendance: Lewis Pinkham, Daniel Curtis, Patricia Hinds, Jeff McKeen, Tom Connolly, Raeleen Pert, Jim Norris, Matt Moretti, Glen Melvin, Andrew Rhuel, Ralph Smith

Members Absent: Jane Disney, Tom Howell

DMR Staff in attendance: Patrick Keliher, Kohl Kanwit, Angel Ripley, John Fendl, Alison Sirois, Heidi Leighton

Others in Attendance: Fiona DeKoning, Daniel Devereaux, Scott Moody

Meeting called to order at 10:01am.

10:04am- Lewis Pinkham called for a motion to approve previous meeting minutes. Motion made by Tom Connolly, 2nd by Raeleen Pert, minutes approved unanimously.

10:05am- Agenda item #4- Final vote on bylaws. Lewis and Kohl explained reason for a final vote on bylaws, version had been cleaned up aesthetically, and section with question regarding use of Robert's Rules of order removed. Lewis asked group to consider approving as written now, allowing him to utilize the format he prefers (Maine Municipal Moderators Manual). Lewis' Motion to approve, 2nd by Glen Melvin, unanimously approved as final.

10:07am- Agenda item #6- ISSC Update (moved before item #5 to ensure full members in attendance prior to presenting) Kohl provided a handout with pertinent updates from the ISSC meeting in October. Highlights of proposals that pertain to or impact Maine were reviewed ([SEE ATTACHMENT](#)). Kohl offered explanation about committees, how they work, cost to join ISSC and importance of industry members being on committees. Lewis reiterated this importance. Jeff McKeen asked if you had to attend the ISSC meeting to be on a committee. Kohl replied with no, however you do have to be a member (\$60 annually). She also explained that ISSC fee for registration for the biennial meeting is about \$600, and is waived for industry members who want to attend.

10:35am- Agenda Item #5- Update on wild mussel harvest meeting- Kohl provided an update on the Wild Mussel harvest meeting that was held in Ellsworth on January 5th ([SEE ATTACHMENT](#)). As article 5 of the bylaws details, a committee may be formed by SHAC- Lewis asked if he appointed 3 people for this topic initially, do we think an agreement could be reached, he suggested himself, Ralph Smith, and Fiona DeKoning. Ralph indicated a small group was best and this worked for him, Fiona asked if Theo DeKoning could be in place of her or in addition to her, full agreement by Ralph and Lewis. Jeff McKeen asked if a scientific viewpoint would be beneficial. Ralph suggested Dr. Brian Beal, Dan Curtis suggested Dr. Phil Yund, since he is knowledgeable in regards to mussels specifically. Fiona suggested they first try for an agreement with just the 3 of them, if a scientific input is needed, then they can move in that

direction. It was suggested by Commissioner Keliher that the best course of action was to determine a solution on their own, once DMR is involved then rulemaking takes over. Ralph made a motion for the committee of 3, Jeff McKeen 2nd motion, all unanimous in favor.

10:45am- Agenda Item#7- SHAC at Fisherman's Forum- Angel explained reasons behind the addition of SHAC meet and greet at Fisherman's Forum, Kohl added that it was indicated on the survey after last year's forum. Angel read the Fisherman's Forum agenda items, took a poll on intended attendance by SHAC members, goal is 50% or more representation, it appeared that a minimum of 50% of members would be in attendance.

10:55am- Lewis called for 10 minute break

11:04am- Lewis called to order meeting- Lewis announced resignation of Tom Howell from his SHAC position. Kohl referenced bylaws to refill the vacancy. Kohl went on to explain that Scott Moody was certified for depuration and eligible to fill the vacancy. Dan Devereaux asked is a worked for the depuration company could be a replacement; Lewis explained per the bylaws, it must be the depuration certificate holder. Scott Moody was in attendance and confirmed his interest in serving on the Council. Glen Melvin motioned for Scott Moody to be nominated for the vacancy, Andy Rhuel 2nd the motion, vote was unanimous in favor.

11:08am- Lewis moved to agenda item#10- Follow up on Sustainability labeling of clams- Patricia Hinds handed out a Sustainability Organization Comparison ([SEE ATTACHMENT](#)). Patricia gave an update on agencies reviewed. Explained procedures and costs associated with each. She also explained to move forward on this, SHAC has no authority; it needs to go through the Maine Clammers Association or a similar organization or business. Lewis suggested that we have this information available at Fisherman's Forum, all agreed. Ralph suggested that the state come up with a logo that can be put on products to catch the eyes of consumers showing they are Maine products. Kohl explained it is not part of the DMR mandate, and we cannot be a certifying agency for that. Kohl agreed will look into more detail of how the state can help with labeling/promotion of Maine products. Dept of Agriculture currently utilizes one, Kohl asked for clarification if that recommendation included all shellfish? Ralph suggested we start with clams.

11:23am- Agenda item #9- Work Plan for 2016- Kohl suggested a work plan be created for 2016 for SHAC so we have an ongoing idea of things that need to be addressed through SHAC, being proactive rather than always reactive. Ralph suggested more rain closure information- identifying when closures are really needed at 1" or 2" of rainfall, Glen asked if that was a DMR rule, or if SHAC has the ability to inquire. Kohl explained NEST has been working on determining factors and in March there should be a presentation from NEST regarding results, we will invite NEST to the next SHAC meeting to present. Lewis called for additional suggestions for work plan items- Dan Curtis stated weather channel shows Mussel conservation closures on their Application. Lewis stated there has been discussion for a year with DMR to try to merge maps, so far it has been unable to be done. Kohl explained request for interactive maps for closures, more user friendly. Stated we are limited by resource and expertise on the subject. Currently working with students from colleges through Heidi Leighton to determine how it

can be accomplished. Fiona suggested that the Frenchman's Bay group has a multi-layer map in place, Chris Peterson was head of the project. Dan Curtis suggested we add a biologist or scientist to the SHAC council. Kohl referred to the bylaws. Jane Disney currently holds the only available position for this, and she is a scientist. It was suggested to have a gov.delivery sign up at the fisherman's forum. We will make this available. Dan Curtis asked in regards to a grant writing to write a grant for additional rain gauges- Lewis offered to do it, DMR will sponsor and assist where needed.

Agenda item #11- Next meeting to be held on April 6th, in Ellsworth, subject to room availability.

12:08- Meeting adjourned.