Shellfish Committee Meeting Minutes- Recommendations to the Chilmark Select Board

September 20, 2021 5: 00PM

Non committee members present: Stephen Larsen, John Larsen, Isaiah Scheffer

Committee members present: Wayne Iacono, Dennis Jason Jr, Mathew Mayhew, Scott Larsen and Warren Doty

Commercial Bay Scallop Season 2021/22

1. Dennis Jason Jr motioned that the commercial bay scallop season in all water’s of Chilmark start Monday November 22, 2021. Mathew Mayhew seconded the motion (approved unanimously)
2. Mathew Mayhew motioned that the commercial limit be two struck bushel per day. Dennis Jason Jr seconded the motion (approved unanimously).

Recreational Bay Scallop Season 2021/22

1. Scott Larsen motioned for the recreational bay scallop season to open on Monday October 18, 2021 in all waters of Chilmark. Dennis Jason Jr. seconded the motion (approved unanimously).
2. Discussion by all members of the committee to forbid dragging in the area known as Muddy Cove to protect eelgrass.

Commercial and Recreational Oyster Season 2021/22 (Tisbury Great Pond)

1. Scott Larsen motioned for commercial and recreational harvest of oysters should begin in Tisbury Great Pond on November 1, 2021. Dennis Jason Jr. seconded the motion (approved unanimously).
2. Warren Doty motioned for the oyster season in Tisbury Great Pond to end March 31, 2022. Mathew Mayhew seconded the motion (approved unanimously).
3. Scott Larsen motioned to make the limit 800 count of oysters per day. Fishermen can choose three of the five fishing days Monday thru Friday to harvest. Mathew Mayhew seconded the motion (approved unanimously).

Warrant Article request by the Martha’s Vineyard Shellfish Group

There is a warrant article request by the Martha’ Vineyard Shellfish Group (MVSG) to repair sea water intakes at the Hughes Hatchery facility. One of the intakes is busted and the other is in ill repair. The shellfish constable Isaiah Scheffer explained how vital the operation of the Hughes Hatchery is for the town’s to keep getting the amount of shellfish we currently are receiving.

Mathew Mayhew made a motion for the Shellfish Committee to support the MVSG’s request for funds to repair the intakes. Dennis Jason Jr. seconded the motion (approved unanimously).

Discussion after that if not all of the funds are used in the repair that any remaining money be transferred back to the town.

Meeting adjourned 5:40PM