

**Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board  
Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.  
Meeting trailer at 131 Pleasant St.  
Nantucket, MA 02554 &  
Via Zoom  
\*HSAB meeting are video-recorded**

**Members present:** Andy Lowell Scott Anderson, Dave Bossi,  
Dave Fronzuto, Ginger Andrews, Peter Brace, Stephen Payer

**Members Absent:**

**Marine Dept:**

**Natural Resources Dept:**

**Others:** Amy DeSibio, Veronica Bonnet, Tommy Bressette, Ellen  
Mayo, Val Oliver

**CALL TO ORDER**

5:03 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Draft minutes of Sept. 6, 2022

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

**General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey**

No report.

**NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT**

**General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff**

No report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT**

No public comments.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Excessive sand in scallops/Dredging plan – Discussion**

No discussion.

### **1st HSAB quarterly report to Select Board – Discussion**

Mr. Brace reported that he had not completed this report, but that he would have it ready for the HSAB meeting on Sept. 20, 2022.

### **Goals & Objectives – Discussion**

Mr. Anderson said he wanted to explore options for dealing the spread of green crabs in the harbors. Mr. Lowell said he would add this item to a future agenda.

## **HEALTH OF THE HARBORS**

### **Stormwater runoff and harbor impacts**

Mr. Bossi said the focus of a recent Select Board public hearing on this issue was more on managing the draining of pools. Mr. Lowell said that stormwater runoff is exacerbated by storm surge and the stronger storms Nantucket has been experiencing over the last several years.

### **Excessive lawn fertilizer use: Update – Discussion – New information**

Mr. Brace said that the HSAB needs the staff from the Natural Resources (NRD) and Marine departments to attend its meeting so they can inform the board on the latest updates on the issues under this heading on the agenda.

### **FDA shellfish taking prohibition in mooring fields**

Mr. Bossi asked if Town Biologist Tara Riley had sent her letter of explanation of Nantucket's harbor cleaning efforts to date to the Federal Food & Drug Administration (FDA). Mr. Brace said Ms. Riley did send the letter in early May and that she and the NRD were awaiting a response to the letter, and notification of when the FDA would be coming to Nantucket see the situation for itself.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Vineyard Wind presentation**

Ms. DeSibio and Ms. Bonnet of Nantucketers Against Turbines (ACKRATS) gave a presentation to the HSAB on why this group believes Vineyard Wind's proposal to put 62 wind turbines south of Nantucket and Martha will have negative impacts on Nantucket and the marine environment.

Mr. Anderson asked if the electricity generated by Vineyard Wind would come directly to Nantucket. Ms. DeSibio said it would go into the regional grid.

Mr. Payer said the cost of wind power per kilowatt hour is going to be extremely expensive. He said the wind turbines create more greenhouse gases than they are supposed to prevent. Mr. Payer added a comment on "spindle cells" in whales and other marine mammals that give them feelings that can be impacted by wind turbines.

Mr. Fronzuto said boat navigation would be a "nightmare" with the installed wind turbines.

Ms. Andrews noted that impacts on birds had been discussed yet. She also asked why would crucial infrastructure be placed in the riskiest location. Ms. Andrews added that siting of wind turbine installations is crucial to whether birds are killed or not. Ms. Andrews said that proving bird kill by ocean-based wind turbine is difficult because their dead bodies fall into the ocean. She said Vineyard Wind's wind turbines would prove to be very detrimental to seabird species that feed in the vicinity of the proposed location

of these wind turbines and to birds that migrate along the Atlantic Flyway.

Mr. Anderson said his concern was that all of the claims made by ACKRATS must be backed by data.

Mr. Brace reminded the meeting that the HSAB's, and the Town's jurisdiction is to the three-mile limit out from the shore. He added that he didn't know of any Nantucket commercial fishermen fishing where Vineyard Wind's project is proposed for. Mr. Brace noted that there was no concern from Nantucket or any environmental protection groups when National Grid installed 35-megawatt power transmission cables beneath the bottom of Nantucket Sound between the mainland and Nantucket in 1997 and 2007. He added that at night, the lights of the mainland can be seen from Nantucket's north shore and said he'd never heard of this diminishing Nantucket's listing as a national historic landmark.

Mr. Brace noted that during the permitting of Cape Wind's proposed wind turbine project for Nantucket, opponents the Alliance to protect Nantucket Sound advocated for putting the wind turbines south of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. He asked Ms. DeSibio and Ms. Bonnet where, if not where the Alliance said they should be installed, should Vineyard Wind's wind turbines be installed.

Mr. Bossi said he appreciated the presentation, but he felt that the HSAB is not the board for ACKRATS to be bring this issue to. He also said he that he didn't think that Vineyard Wind's installation of wind turbines would impact the harbor environment in Nantucket Harbor because the harbor is closed except for the small opening between the jetties.

Mr. Lowell said he's been seeing disturbances within the three-mile limit caused by submarine power transmission cables. He added that Dan Pronk is going to be continuing to fish for lobsters where Vineyard Wind is proposing to put its wind turbines. Mr. Lowell further added that he continues to believe that the HSAB is an advocate for Nantucket's commercial fishermen.

Mr. Brace said he agreed with Mr. Bossi.

Mr. Payer said that the HSAB’s jurisdiction does include birds, right whales and energy costs.

Ms. Oliver said that ACKRATS attended the HSAB meeting to share its information with the board and that their lawsuit is all about requesting the facts of Vineyard Wind proposal. She added that she does think the wind turbines will impact Nantucket’s harbors.

Mr. Lowell asked for public comment. There was no public comment on this item.

### **The Nantucket Clean Water Coalition - Discussion**

Mr. Brace advocated for the HSAB to join this group. Mr. Lowell said he was surprised the HSAB wasn’t asked to join the group when it was being formed. Mr. Bossi said the HSAB should probably act as an “outside observer” of this group’s actions and it would most likely agree with most of what the Nantucket Clean Water Coalition (NCWC) is working on anyway. Mr. Anderson recommend that the HSAB invite the NCWC to present its plan and mission to this board at a future meeting. Mr. Fronzuto said that the HSAB should be in a “review and supportive role” for this group.

### **Coastal Resilience Advisory Board – Update**

Mr. Brace did not have an update for the HSAB.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT**

### **RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Fronzuto asked if the Zoom meeting format would continue to be an option for meetings. Mr. Brace said that it would continue through spring 2023.

### **ADJOURN**

Unanimously approved, 7-0, at 6:20 p.m.

**YOUTUBE LINK**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmihO\\_0I2Ps&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmihO_0I2Ps&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg)

**Future Meetings:**

Sept. 20 and Oct. 4

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter B. Brace, Secretary