

**Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board  
Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.  
Community Room, 4 Fairgrounds Road  
\*HSAB meeting are video-recorded and  
available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube**

**Members present:** Tom Szydowski, Dave Bossi, Andy Lowell,  
Peter Brace, Dave Fronzuto, Ginger Andrews

**Members Absent:** Dan Pronk

**Marine Dept:**

**Natural Resources Dept:** Tara Riley

**Others:** Kona Hosier, Ken Kuntz

**CALL TO ORDER**

5:05 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Unanimously approved, 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Draft minutes of Sept. 21, 2021**

Unanimously approved, 6-0.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Brace recommended that the HSAB regularly inform the Select Board on what the HSAB is working either during the public comment portion of Select Board meetings or by letter to Erika Mooney. Mr. Lowell and Ms. Andrews agreed with this recommendation.

**MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

**General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey**

No report.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT**

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

Ms. Riley reported that there were around 80 people scalloping in Madaket on opening day of the recreational scallop season, Oct. 1, with most people getting around a half bushel. She reported that the state's Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) allowed Warren's Landing to be open for scalloping. To help this happen, she and her staff were on the beach with educational materials and a display to help people identify adult scallops and learn why shellfish bed closures don't affect bay scallops. She added that the Horseshed and Hulbert Avenue remains closed to the taking of all shellfish except for scallops. Ms. Riley reported that she is providing the DMF with as much data as she can to show that these closures aren't necessary. She added that the NRD would be working with Ms. Lucey over the winter on this issue.

Ms. Riley reported completing the NRD's dive survey of the harbors, the previous week, doing 40 dives over six days. She added that they also did a series of recreational shoreline surveys to get a sense of the shallow parts of Madaket Harbor.

Ms. Riley reported that she and her staff are in the process of shutting down the hatchery for the winter. She added that oyster-seed-encrusted concrete structures she made will be deployed at the mouth of Medouie Creek for the Nantucket Conservation Foundation's (NCF) restoration project for this part of Polpis Harbor as soon she can verify that she has the Chapter 91 license. Ms. Riley reported that the NRD has hired a coastal systems technician who will handle the endangered species monitoring, fertilizer use enforcement and Conservation Commission enforcement. She added the NRD is undergoing a reorganization that includes adding a sustainability section to the NRD including the energy and recycling coordinators, and the current position of coastal resilience coordinator. Ms. Riley said the NRD is also advertising for an office assistant and a Conservation Commission administrator.

Ms. Riley reported that the NRD would be opening Sesachacha and Hummock ponds in October.

Mr. Lowell asked for an update on the lyngbia algae. Ms. Riley said it's starting to show in Madaket Harbor and is "really bad" in the head of the harbor and in front of the field station. She added that she hopes to do a lyngbia survey in the near future.

Mr. Lowell asked how the warmer water temperature might be affecting bay scallops. Ms. Riley reported that nub scallops seem to be surviving the winter. She said she would report to the HSAB the impacts of climate change on bay scallops going forward.

Mr. Lowell asked if Ms. Riley if she's seen seed in stranding-prone areas of the harbors. She added that she and her staff are still searching for seed around the harbors.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Proposed amendments to boat Airbnb and liveboards regulations, and slip lottery stakeholders – Discussion and preparation for Oct. 6, 2021 Select Board meeting**

Mr. Bossi reported since all in attendance at the --- stakeholders' meeting agreed with these regulations, the Town felt it unnecessary to keep the proposed liveboard language in future Select Board meeting packets. Mr. Fronzuto was also concerned that this language had been left out. Mr. Brace said that all of the proposed new language should be in the proposed liveboard regulations in case members of the public see it and want to comment on it.

The HSAB briefly discussed the recent Select Board meeting discussion on the Town pier slip lottery. Mr. Lowell asked that Mr. Szydowski speak on the HSAB's behalf on the slip lottery at the Oct. 6 Select Board meeting.

The HSAB agreed to have Mr. Brace send an email to Ms. Mooney reminding her to include the proposed liveaboard regulations in the packet for the Select Board's Oct. 6 meeting.

**Excessive sand in scallops/dredging plan – Discussion with Steve McKenna, Cape & Islands Director for the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management**

Mr. Lowell asked Ms. Riley for suggested areas of Nantucket Harbor where micro-dredging projects might help. Mr. Fronzuto said the HSAB members should come to the Oct. 19 meeting with ideas for Mr. McKenna.

Ms. Riley reported she is helping organize the Marine Research Collaborative, a group island effort of all scientists conducting ongoing research on marine species and ecosystems, including the NRD, the Nantucket Land Council, the NCF and the UMass Boston Nantucket Field Station.

Ms. Andrews said that she would look in the Nantucket Biodiversity Initiative collection of research reports at the Maria Mitchell Association to see if it contains any reports on the subject.

**HEALTH OF THE HARBORS**

**Excessive lawn fertilizer use – Update & discussion**

No update/discussion.

**FDA shellfish taking prohibition in mooring fields**

No discussion.

Mr. Kuntz joined the meeting at approximately 5:58 p.m.

**Water quality testing update and boat holding tank dye tablet distribution**

Mr. Lowell asked Ms. Riley if Ms. Lucey had started putting dye tablets into boat holding tanks yet. Ms, Riley didn't have an answer for this question.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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

Mr. Lowell asked the HSAB to comment on the draft Coastal Resilience Plan (CRP). Mr. Brace reported that although the deadline for comments on the draft CRP was Oct. 5, the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee (CRAC), extended the deadline to Oct. 11. Mr. Brace stressed that the draft CRP and the resulting final CRP are recommendations on how the Town of Nantucket can, if it wants to, react and prepare for sea level rise.

Mr. Fronzuto expressed his concerns about the long-term recommendation in the draft CRP proposing a barrier in front of the downtown waterfront with one opening in side of which he warned of poor circulation. Mr. Fronzuto recommended two openings for tidal flow.

Mr. Brace said water quality may not be as much of a concern when the barrier might need to be built because Coatue and the Haulover may be compromised to the point of there not even being much of the harbor left and with ocean waves washing in. Mr. Fronzuto agreed, saying at that point protection of the waterfront may take precedent.

## **PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT**

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

## **ADJOURN**

Unanimously approved at 6:15 p.m.

## **YOUTUBE MEETING LINK**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yh7-4LcJjV0&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrlKlxWm6VQTfuXg&index=1>

**Future Meetings:**

Oct. 19 and Nov. 2

Respectfully Submitted,  
Peter B. Brace, Secretary