

Herring Fisheries Committee Meeting

December 9, 2015



Present were Bill Boulter, Rick Madden, Art Egerton, Kerri Day, Brad Chase, Him Hackett, Charlie Mathison from WATD, Michael Kirby, Mark Armorello and Kyle Harney.

Minutes of June 24, 2015 were read by Bill Boulter and then approved by the Board. It was motioned and seconded by Rick and Jim.

Mark thanked everyone for all their hard work and he also thanked all the stream work crew for all their efforts in improving the streams in Town. It was also noticed that there is a larger amount of fish in the waters.

Mark mentioned that he is still working with the State and work with them is progressing.

HERRING PARK AUTHORITY:

Bill has submitted a complete package of the secretary. The deed from 1941 has also been included in this package. Bill read the information for all in attendance to hear. In March 1973, the Selectmen approved that the Division of Marine Fisheries were to be in charge of the Herring Run. See attached notes in Secretary's records.

Bill mentioned also that he will be having a discussion at the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Jim asked what the problem was with Conservation having control of the above mentioned? Bill stated the authority was given to the Fisheries Commission, not the Conservation Commission. Art asked if Conservation has an issue with this can it be brought forward. Mark stated yes.

Kerri Day mentioned in 1969 Article 54 states that Conservation Commission has authority. He submitted a copy of this to Mark. Copy in Secretary's notes. Mark mentioned that Town Council will determine who is in authority. Kerri mentioned that Town Meeting vote is final vote to whom has authority. Rick Madden stated at this time that we should move on with the meeting.

RIVER HERRING NETWORK:

Mark mentioned that the meeting went well. There was a bus tour. There was discussion on the rebuilding of the Herring Riverways. Art mentioned that the speakers went on U Tube. PAC TV was also there. It was also mentioned that there were approximately 45 people in attendance.

VIDEO SLIDES:

Art Egerton reviewed all information and wishes to know what we wish him to do with this. He mentioned that he will have a 5 to 10 minute show for the Selectmen in the near future. He is also working on a brochure. Art also spoke about the notification that needs to be sent to abutters regarding the Herring Migration route. He mentioned that perhaps a computer data

base needed to be set up. Mark stated that the Fisheries trailer should be there and perhaps cards could be made.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Kyle mentioned that information about the Fisheries Commission is on Face Book. He is working on a website also.

BROCKTON WATER STAFF MEETING:

Bill stated that there was a tour of their building. At this time Bill was shown how water is being gauged.

There was discussion regarding the raising and lowering of the gates. It had been taken out but it is now in place.

The Fisheries Commission asked Brockton not to divert water because of the amount of fish. Brockton stated that they have not diverted the water. It was mentioned that Silver Lake is down about 5 feet.

By State Statute they can divert as of October. Mark sent letter stating it was ok to divert. Brockton stated they started diverting as of December 1, 2015.

Kerri Day mentioned that at during Thanksgiving time he saw sea gulls. This means that juvenile fish were there. Bill mentioned that he saw sea gulls feeding at Furnace Pond a few days ago. It was mentioned that perhaps other types of fish are also there. Rick Madden state he saw sea gulls today at Furnace and Oldham. Discussion continued regarding Tubbs Meadow Brook feeding into Silver Lake. Michael stated that perhaps Silver Lake has hydrilla plants or perhaps some other type of invasive plant.

REPLACEMENT OF FISH LADDER AND GATE REPAIR:

Brad and Art stated the gate off Cranberry Road was in backwards and was very difficult to turn. Brockton Water owns this dam. A draft needs to be done to Brockton Water Commission. This needs to be repaired or replaced.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dredging in the area of dam at Furnace Pond. Monies appropriated at Town Meeting. Hopefully engineers will come up with plan to present. Ongoing chemical treatment at Gorham Mill Pond – it was not chemically treated but as they are attached there may be a question on this.

Art mentioned that Plymouth County owns a dredging machine and has a driver. DEP has to approve this as well as Conservation before anything can be done. He will continue to look into this.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brad Chase reporting.

Brad Chase mentioned that the work being done by the Fisheries Commission has been

wonderful.

3rd MILL POND:

In 2011 a ladder had been put in and was set too high. It needs to be reset. Brad mentioned he feels in doing this it will show a fuller volume of fish. He has counted 130 fish at this area.

Brad mentioned that he did an analysis into the diversion of Furnace Pond to Silver Lake. He will write his review.

Brad mentioned that a boom has been finished and the counting board will be put in next March. There will be a counter at 3rd Mill.

The North River Watershed will still do visual counting.

Brad also mentioned that a Stream Maintenance Plan needs to be drafted. He will get this to us.

O and M Plan needs to be reviewed and approved by Brad. Ben will meet with Board regarding this onsite.

INDIAND HEAD RIVER AND FISH RUN:

This area includes Pembroke, Hanover, and Hanson.

Brad would like to have someone look over this. Town interaction is needed. Perhaps Bill can make contact with other Selectmen. The concrete is deteriorating . Stewardship is needed. Perhaps a ladder and counter can also be done in this area. Brad would attend this meeting if needed.

Emergency Management stated that the dam is in Hanover. Bill will contact and get some information. No volunteers should do this type of work. Brad would like to draft fishway for this.

WARDENS FOR COMMISSION:

This should be discussed with Board of Selectmen and the Town Attorney. Perhaps the Police should be involved as wardens. Bill feels that wardens should have identification with a shirt or jacket so people in town can identify with them.

ANNUAL REPORT:

Mark will do the annual report and get it to the Selectmen

There was a motion to close the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Next meeting will be March 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Kyle Harney.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Fahey, Secretary