



Town of Barnstable

Shellfish Committee

1189 Phinneys Lane, Centerville MA 02632

SHELLFISH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
DATE: November 12, 2025
TIME: 6:00-8:00 PM

Shellfish Committee Members present: Douglas Crook, Patricia Farinha, Bill Cherepon, Paul Hendricks, Jacob Angelo, Robert Lancaster, Timothy Hammel, Gloriann Hurwitz, Jim Weiler

Shellfish Committee Members absent: None

General Public present: Jason French, Jeffrey Daluz, Jill Nawoichik, Joe Weinberg, Paul Hamblin, Tyler Hagenstein, Bruce Blackman, Henry Cenzalli

Town Council Liaison absent: Gordon Starr

Town Staff present: Elizabeth Lewis, Shellfish Biologist; Nina Coleman, Director of Natural Resource; Alicia Lauzon, MEA Office Manager

Douglas Crook called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, as November 12, 2025 meeting of the Shellfish Committee. Chairman Crook read a notice at the beginning of the meeting:

NOTICE OF RECORDING "Please note that tonight's meeting is recorded and broadcast on the Town of Barnstable's Government Access Channel and, in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, s. 20, I must inquire whether anyone is taping this meeting and to please make their presence known."

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Approve Meeting Minutes: October 8, 2025 minutes

Jim Weiler stated he was at the October 8th Shellfish Committee meeting, but his name was not on the Committee members present list. Tim motioned to approve the October 8, 2025 meeting minutes pending the Shellfish Committee Members present changed to add Jim Weiler and Bill seconded. There was a unanimous vote in favor of approving minutes after said change.

2. Chairman's Comments:

Chairman Crook made comment on the proposed zoning regulations of trailers being at home occupations. He stated that aquaculture is exempt from the zoning regulations. He also suggested that anyone with interest in the topic either write a letter or attend the next meeting. Chairman Crook stated he will not be at the December meeting and Vice Chair Bill Cherepon will be running the meeting.

3. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:

1. Shellfish Growing Area Updates

Shellfish Biologist Lewis stated that North Bay did fail the first round of water quality testing, however it did pass later and has opened with quahogs at Bay St. Kalmus is closed to scallops in the attempt to let the seed that was found there to grow. The bottom half of Shoestring Bay, Mill Creek, and Scudder all opened. In December, the Centerville River of East Bay will open pending water quality.

2. Annual Propagation Report

The annual propagation report (see attached below*) was presented by Shellfish Biologist Elizabeth Lewis. Discussion followed.

4. New Business:

1. 2026 Shellfish Committee Meeting Schedule:

- Meetings Scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of the Month
- Meetings Scheduled 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- November 11th is Veteran's Day, no meeting or change date?

January 14, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
February 11, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
March 11, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
April 8, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
May 13, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
June 10, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

July 8, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
August 12, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
September 9, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
October 14, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
November 25?, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
December 9, 2026 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

After discussion, it was decided to not have a November meeting next year and have the annual propagation report done in December. Tim motioned to approve all 2026 scheduled meeting times with no meeting in November and Gloriann seconded. All in favor.

5. Upcoming (and Old) Renewal & Transfer Hearings:

1. Hearing for the transfer of aquaculture licensed site ng017 from Scott Laurie, 158 Lakeside Dr, Marstons Mills, MA 02648 to Kimberly Hamblin, manager, Spring Creek Shellfish Inc., 76 John Maki Rd, West Barnstable, MA 02668 and issuance of a new license to Kimberly Hamblin for a period of 5 years. Public hearing 12/04/2025 at 9:30AM, Selectmen's Conference Room, 2nd floor, Town Hall, 367 Main St, Hyannis, MA 02601.

Paul Hamblin stated that Scott Laurie, Paul's stepfather, was retiring and moving to Florida and would like to transfer the farm to Paul's wife, Kimberly Hamblin. Shellfish Biologist Lewis stated they have always followed the regulations and Natural Resource has no issues. Bob moved to recommend approval for the transfer and Bill seconded. All in favor.

6. Upcoming (and old) Proposed Coastal Projects:

1. Applicant: Highmount Fiduciary LLC, Trustee; Palmyra Realty Trust
Project Location: 180 Carriage Rd, Osterville, MA 02655 (map 071, parcel 015)
Representative: John O'Dea, Sullivan Engineering & Consulting, Inc.
Proposed Project: To replace and extend existing bulkhead
Conservation Hearing: 11/18/2025 3:00PM

Shellfish Biologist Lewis stated that Mr. O'Dea was not able to be present, but they had touched base with him and the applicant wants to redo and extend their existing bulkhead. It is well above the mean high water line and will be pulled more inland instead of towards the ocean. Most of the work will be done by land. They will need to bring in a barge for some equipment, so the Natural Resource Division just requested that they be part of the pre-construction meeting to see where they will be landing. Lewis stated that will be the only location they can come and go from.

7. Special Presentations: None

8. Old Business:

1. **Apprentice Program Discussion will be continued to the December meeting to accommodate annual propagation report**

Chairman Crook stated this discussion will be moved to the December meeting when Constable Croteau will be present.

Tim Hammel requested that dredging be put back onto the schedule. Shellfish Biologist Lewis stated it will get put onto the next month's agenda.

9. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

The Shellfish Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion made by Bob and seconded by Paul at 7:30 PM to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Alicia Lauzon – MEA Office Manager

*2025 Shellfish Propagation Report

Quahogs:

Contaminated Relays:

- 271.5 bushels harvested out of the Centerville River. Planted in East Bay.
- 8 participants and paid out \$10,860

⇒ For Harvest

Bushels moved: 2025: 547 2024: 437.5 2023: 413 2022: 347.5

-Bushels moved to rec only: 212.5 Bushels moved to all: 334.5
*reminder, many of these bushels are seed where nets needed to be thinned

Areas opened: -Partially dug out Handy Point and then opened
-Rendezvous, opened as is

Quahogs Purchased:

- ARC: 2.5 million R1.5
- Muscongus: 1 million 1mm
- Merrymeeting: 1.5 million, R1.5 (won the county bid this year)

Nets planted this year: 79 predator exclusion nets - 3,326,370 planted under nets

total on SOUTH SIDE

- ⇒ 50K per net -> Planted at Handy Point, Joe's Grant and Sand Point
- ⇒ 15-20K under nets at Scudder Lane
- ⇒ 15K at Hyannis

- Currently maintaining 235 predator exclusion nets

FLUPSY:

-largest problem was thought to be predators in the silos – holes straight through the hinge of the shell, but after talking to the Cooperative Extension, it's possible we are having low levels of calcium intermittently at Prince Cove and that is leading to softer shells – too much movement may to blame?

-Lost electricity to flopsy 2 – total electrical overhaul down there this year, ran on 2 flupsies which hindered growth at times due to densities, but overall best growth we've seen in years

-natural mortality in smaller sizes was improved this year!

-scallop order not filled for 2mm. Already have order in for next year. Meeting coming soon on propagation location.

Oysters Purchased:

North Side

-850,000 4-5mm oysters were put either in the flupsy at Millway, or in small suitcase bags at scudder depending on the size they were received at

-690 bags of remote set, 600 bags were put at Scudder Lane and 90 bags were put in East Bay as a pilot project (with a predator exclusion net over them in East Bay). Both looking equally great

-1.5 inch oysters purchased this spring to supplement Scudder Lane harvest and grown in trays at Scudder this past summer

-about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ oyster crop still needs to be put on bottom. Priority was using good tides to plant quahogs and now we will be incrementally putting out oysters for the season

South Side

-150K R2 oysters were grown in FLUPSY this summer and then bagged at Cotuit Town Dock

-Dermo found to be present at Cotuit Town Dock. Nothing is looking great over there, including this years crop that came out of the flupsy - looking amazing in July, but as of October seeing stunted growth and mortality

-Recently purchased 100,000+ larger size stock (1 inch plus) to make up for moralities at Cotuit Town Dock and to ensure a harvest for next year. Now growing those oysters in West Bay to run from dermo

Other news:

-We will be not be going out to bid for uglies this year

-We did 4 Learn to Shellfish Classes (also gained so many new volunteers from these), 4 Razor Clam classes (uptick in those landings this year!), and 2 Clamming Class for Kids. Several presentations throughout the year.

-First winter of the shellfish technicians getting into classrooms in an effort to focus on environmental justice issues. Taught programs in 5th grade classrooms to reach a broad range of students, some who have barely been to the beach. Programs in the classroom and then brought out into the field. Extremely well received and will be expanding the program this year.

-309 hours donated from the shellfish volunteers this year!

- 18 NOI's reviewed in 2025 and subsequent shellfish surveys/reports if needed

-Oysters harvested opening week (Wednesday and Saturday last week): 318.5 pecks

Plans for Upcoming Year:

Will be purchasing:

- 800 remote set bags
- 4 million quahogs for flupsies
- 1 million oyster seed for flupsies
- most of this determined by the county bid and for oysters, dermo resistant stock
- focusing more on oysters this year coming up to create more space for growth and monitor health more closely