

**SHELLFISH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
DATE: December 10, 2025
TIME: 6:00-8:00 PM**

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

Shellfish Committee Members absent: Douglas Crook, Robert Lancaster

General Public present: Jason French, Jeffrey Daluz, Jill Nawoichik, Joe Weinberg, John J. Madden, Henry Cenzalli, Bruce Blackman

Town Council Liaison absent: Gordon Starr

Town Staff present: Amy Croteau, Shellfish Constable; Alicia Lauzon, MEA Office Manager

Bill Cherepon called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM, as December 10, 2025 meeting of the Shellfish Committee. Assistant Chairman Cherepon 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: November 12, 2025 minutes

Tim motioned to approve the November 12, 2025 meeting minutes and Gloriann seconded. There was a unanimous vote in favor of approving minutes as is.

2. Chairman's Comments:

3. Natural Resources Report / Correspondence:

1. Shellfish Growing Area Updates

Constable Croteau stated that last month the Shellfish Volunteer Appreciation party was held and Natural Resource had 309 hours of volunteer work. Constable Croteau stated that East Bay is now open. It used to open seasonally from November – April but is now December – April. All conditionally approved areas are set to open December 15th pending water quality testing.

2. Shellfish Advisory Panel Updates

Constable Croteau sits on the Shellfish Advisory Panel for the state and aquaculture transfer forms were discussed. Eventually the state would like input from all stakeholders, but they were working on narrowing down at least a few questions. Croteau stated there will no longer be any blue shellfish transaction cards.

3. Baxters

Constable Croteau stated that Baxters is up for sale and has been offered to the town. She asked if there were any suggestions as to what it could be used for. Some of the suggestions were for a fish pier and another offload option.

4. New Business:

1. 2025-2026 Seasonal Dragging Discussion

The discussion of dry dragging for the 2025-2026 season was brought up. Relay areas will continue to be off limits, which includes East Bay because of the East Bay relay this year. Constable Croteau stated she would have maps for anyone who wanted to mark where they think closures should be for dragging or where they think closures should be removed. She encouraged people to mark up the maps and return them to her before the January 2026 shellfish meeting.

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

- 1. Hearing for the renewal of the aquaculture license for site ng038 for Paul Hendricks Jr., 1267 Osterville West Barnstable Rd, Marstons Mills, MA 02648 for a period of 10 years. Public hearing 12/31/2025 at 9:00AM, Selectmen's Conference Room, 2nd floor, Town Hall, 367 Main St, Hyannis, MA 02601.**

Paul Hendricks has had site NG038 for 15 years. Everything is still pretty much the same; razor clams and quahogs are existing, and they are predominately doing quahogs and oysters. Natural Resource does not have any opposition to the renewal. Jake motioned to recommend approval for the renewal of site NG038 and Tim seconded. All in favor.

6. Upcoming (and old) Proposed Coastal Projects:

- 1. Applicant: WYC Sailing Education Foundation
Project Location: 101 Bridge St, Osterville, MA 02655 (map 093, parcel 033)
Representative: John O'Dea, Sullivan Engineering & Consulting, Inc.
Proposed Project: To replace existing boat ramp
Conservation Hearing: 12/02/2025 6:30PM via Zoom**

John O'Dea presented this project. The applicant proposed to replace the concrete boat ramp and was approved by the Conservation Committee. Natural Resource had no issues with this project.

2. Applicant: Ma Audubon

Project Location: 2450 & 1452 Main St, 89 Shepards Way, Barnstable, MA 02630 (maps 238, 258, 237 parcels 005-002, 017, 021)

Representative: Mary Rimmer, Rimmer Environmental Consulting, LLC

Proposed Project: Enhancement and restoration of 76.5 acres of salt marsh within MA Audubon's Great Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary. The project proposes nature based restoration techniques to address legacy infrastructure and the restoration of natural tidal hydrology.

Conservation Hearing: 12/02/2025 6:30PM via Zoom

Constable Croteau stated Mass Audubon is proposing attempted Salt Marsh restoration. She recommended if anyone has any questions on the proposed project to direct them to Mary Rimmer of Rimmer Environmental Consulting.

3. Applicant: Laura Beth, Trustee, 364 Wianno Avenue Trust

Project Location: 270 East Bay Rd, Osterville, MA 02655 (map 163, parcel 010)

Representative: John O'Dea, Sullivan Engineering & Consulting, Inc.

Proposed Project: To permit and maintain a boardwalk, pier, ramp and float for non-motorized use

Conservation Hearing: 12/9/2025 3:00PM via Zoom

John O'Dea was present for this proposal as well. The applicant proposed to permit and maintain a boardwalk, pier, ramp and float for non-motorized use. John O'Dea stated this pier would be about the same size as the others in the area. There was discussion among the Shellfish Committee with most stating opposition. Constable Croteau stated that Natural Resource has concerns and think that it is overkill. Jake motioned to not recommend approval for this project and Tim seconded. All in favor.

7. Special Presentations: None

8. Old Business:

1. Apprentice Program Discussion Continued

Constable Croteau spoke on behalf of Chairman Crook, who was not able to be present, that he does think the program should be abolished altogether. It was recommended to look at other towns that potentially have a similar program, and in the meantime there will continue to be a freeze on adding any new apprentices to the program. It was asked if ending the program would still be up for discussion. It will still be up for discussion, but both the Natural Resource Division and the Shellfish Committee chairman see value in the program. Discussion will be continued at the next month's meeting.

9. Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

The Shellfish Committee unanimously voted to approve a motion made by Tim and seconded by Paul at 7:12 PM to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted: Alicia Lauzon – MEA Office Manager