

COASTAL PONDS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

Police Station
4901 Old Post Road
Charlestown, RI

April 4, 2016

Chairman Rob Lyons called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

Present:

Chairman Rob Lyons, Robert Krause, Bill Wilson, Rich Thomsen, Mike Roy

Absent:

Jeffrey Burns, Rich Phelan

Chairman Rob Lyons declared a quorum was present and requested the committee proceed with Old Business in deference to the guests present.

Guests:

Aquaculture Farmers were invited to attend

Present: Jim Arnoux, Nick Papa, Matt Behan, Michael Farley

Town Staff:

Steve McCandless Town GIS Specialist, Justin Vail - Harbormaster

Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the March 7, 2016 meeting were reviewed.

Bill Wilson moved to accept the minutes Rob Krause seconded, committee unanimously approved the minutes.

Old Business:

Harbor Management Plan revisions - Aquaculture

Justin Vail indicated that he had a meeting with the Aquaculture Farmers to obtain their suggestions for changes. This information was used by the HMP revision committee during the update process.

Rob Lyons presented to this committee the revised HMP, Aquaculture Farmers were invited to the meeting to provide additional feedback.

The HMP was placed on the overhead for all to see and was reviewed and suggestions made on a line by line bases.

It was suggested that the HMP include a request that CRMC allow Oyster Aquaculture on protected Quahog spawning areas. A committee member addressed his concerns that if congested Oyster Farming was having a negative impact on Oyster growth due to a lack of phytoplankton. Would farming on spawning beds effect the Quahogs. The Oyster Farmers were unanimous that there would be no impact and the suggestion was included in the HMP.

There was much discussion about need to address “out of water activities “. For example: storage of equipment, where work boats are kept, how work boats access the farming areas, and where equipment is “dried”. CRMC does not address these issues but they are real and will need to be addressed.

The concept of identification of potential Oyster Farming locations proactively was discussed and tabled.

Review completed and suggests to go back to the HMP revision group.

Financial Report:

Justin distributed the March 2016 update, the committee did not have questions.

Harbormaster Report:

Mooring Application update: Renewal Stickers to be mailed

Working with CRMC to improve the Marking of Aquaculture locations and the use of color designations.

Navigation Markers was discussed.

Additional Old Business

Rob updated the committed on the Dredging & Water Grass Reclamation process at Charlestown Pond.

New Business:

No new Business

Mike Roy motion to adjourn and Rob Krause seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:42 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved: _____ as written
 _____ as amended

William H. Wilson