

Oak Bluffs Shellfish Committee Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2009

Members present: Earl Peters, Mark Landers, Joe Leonardo and Paul Humber

Others present: David Grunden, Michael Briggs, William Alwardt

Meeting opened at 6:00 PM.

Constables' Report

Constable Grunden read his February 2009 report.

Vice-chairman Landers arrived at 6:05 PM.

Motion: To accept the report as read. By: Member Leonardo. Second: Member Humber. Motion passed unanimously 4-0.

Commercial Shellfish application

Constable Grunden advised that Michael Briggs has submitted further documentation of Oak Bluffs residency as requested by the Committee in October 2008 (i.e. letter).

Constable Grunden stated that the burden of proof is on the applicant.

Vice-chairman Landers said that the applicant should be paying excise tax in Oak Bluffs and he must bring further documentation (i.e. vote registration, tax) and should he do that then his application will be approved.

March meeting date

Constable Grunden advised that he will be away on March 17th which is the date for the next meeting and the Committee can either cancel it or have it a week earlier.

Members agreed to move it a week earlier to March 10th.

Old Business

Chairman Peters asked about what is happening in Sengekontacket Pond.

Constable Grunden replied that it is the Woods Hole group who were awarded the contract to the surveying and engineering calculations to determine how much sand should be removed from the bridge to bridge channel. He added that once they receive the report and their findings and give them to Lynn Farker (Edgartown Dredge Administration), she says she can permit reauthorize within 60-90 days of filing. Funding for survey came from grants and private donations.

He added that the last time it was dredged in 1979 they ran into clay, the spoils maybe trucked down to Inkwell beach area and most likely it would happen next winter.

Vice-chairman Landers suggested cleaning out the channel before any dredging is begun.

Constable Grunden said it was placed on the "shovel ready" project list and if the money comes from them there is a greater chance it will be inspected when completed or an after dredge survey be completed.

He added that funding may come via:

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1. Petition article on Town warrant
2. "Shovel ready" Project list
3. Capital Improvement request

Vice-chairman Landers said that everyone in the Town should know that clean water in Sengekontacket Pond benefits everybody.

William Alwardt suggested going for federal money in the future to dredge Lagoon Pond.

Members wanted public to know about their support for the article. Constable Grunden said he would find out if they could use Town funds to express support for the article.

Motion: To close the meeting. By: Vice-chairman Landers. Second: Member Leonardo. Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Meeting closed at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole L Morey
Shellfish Secretary