

Shellfish Commission Minutes from 03/07/2017

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

Committee members present: Al Walker, Abby Roccapriore, Rick Perrault and Kim Colegrove.
Not present Josh Snow

Guests: Mike Gilman, George Harris and Spencer Hull.

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance

Old business of farm share program was discussed, committee requested a quick outline of costs; manpower and other inputs for working the rivers to enhance productivity and health of the oyster beds. Mike Gilman agreed to put together a rough estimate of the time, materials and equipment that must be invested to restore oyster beds. He did mention that he has already purchased dedicated dredges that are only for this site. He also mentioned that he has been working to remediate silting on live seed oysters and help flush accumulations of leaves over living oysters. The Town of Madison is contributing the shell that both sides, Clinton and Madison, of the river will require to restore the oyster beds. Indian River Shellfish is supplying the manpower, the boat and ongoing expenses of fuel and maintenance. The timing was discussed as all preparations will need to be made in time to prepare the beds with shell and spat in June, possibility of a special meeting to approve licenses was mentioned pending submission of requested information from Indian River Shellfish.

The license fee change from \$25 per acre to \$125 an acre was discussed and will be negotiated further later.

The budget was mentioned briefly as being reduced to \$2500 from requested amount but the boat for oversight will be maintained by the town. The shellfish barn will be revisited to see how much of a shortfall will need to be raised. Also discussed was the need to raise funds for an upweller to improve water flow in the amount of approximately \$13,000.

Colegrove made a motion to approve February's minutes, seconded by Roccapriore which passed unanimously.

Perrault made a motion, seconded by Roccapriore to approve moving live oyster spat more uniformly along the Indian River by transplanting to other possible Indian River sites. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn was submitted by Perrault, seconded by Walker and passed unanimously at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lorraine King