

Attending: Herb Gstalder, Laura Hewitt, John Duane

Guests: John Riehl, Jude Ahearn, Wes Downing

Excused: Jake Puffer

Call to order: 2:00pm

Ponds Management Plan (Hewitt and Gstalder)

Gstalder reported that he and Hewitt have finished the draft of the Pond Management. They have also transcribed the data on the 8 ponds from the Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS) for the years 2010-2011 and 2021-2022 onto one spread sheet which will be a part of the plan. They will edit the draft and review the data again to finalize. They expect to have a plan to present to the NRAB at the next meeting. If approved by the NRA Board, the plan will be presented to the Selectboard in the late spring/early summer.

Harbor

Hewitt told the Board that she had received a note this morning that Jay Norton, the Director of the Department of Public Works, was not able to attend as planned to discuss the grant work on the Harbor that the DPW is engaged in. Norton was called to an emergency meeting on the flooding situation and the low-lying roads of the Herring River Project related to permitting. She will try to arrange to have Norton attend a subsequent NRAB meeting.

Hewitt said that she will contact Owen Nichols and report on his progress in the Harbor research study at the next NRAB meeting.

Hewitt reported that she has heard from the Wellfleet accounting department that the payment will go out soon to the Woods Hole Group for their initial work on the Mayo Creek. She expects the second contract with the Woods Hole Group for a feasibility study on the concept of creating a downward angle for the flow of sediment from Mayo Creek to be signed and sent soon.

Duane reported that he is working on a letter to the Southeastern Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance expressing the NRAB support concerning their work on the protection of horseshoe crabs. He will circulate a draft to the Board for discussion at the next meeting. After a discussion, the Board confirmed that letters expressing the position of the NRAB may be sent directly from the Board, with a copy to the Selectboard. However, any letter committing the Town of Wellfleet to an action or monetary obligation must be submitted to the Selectboard for their decision and distribution.

Shellfish Advisory Board (SAB)

Duane requested and Hewitt agreed to add a sentence to the NRAB 2023 summary concerning the work on protecting the forage fish.

Other

Guest Jude Ahearn asked whether the NRAB had been notified of a recent meeting held by the Cape Cod Commission at the Wellfleet Public Library on water and ponds. Hewitt responded that we had not been, even though she and Gstalder had been previously on their mailing list.

Minutes

The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 2/29/24 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.