

Deer Isle Stonington Shellfish Committee Meeting Minutes 06/11/2025

Committee Members In Attendance:

Crystal Gove – Chair, Retired Commercial Harvester
Bill Gove Sr. - Commercial Harvester
Phelps Brown – Vice Chair, Evergreen Garden Club, Mariner's Park
Ben Hardie – Commercial Harvester
Kurt Ciomei – Commercial Harvester
Raelene Pert – Shellfish Warden

2 Guests, 1 Selectmen

6:18 PM - Meeting Start Time

Minutes from last meeting: Approved as posted.

Report from Chair:

1. a. Reviewed SHAC meeting highlights about the new Limited Retail Harvester Certificate with an instructions sheet on how to fill out the online DMR LEEDS forms. Can sell them for ONLY 2 hours without ice, 18 hours with ice. Can still sell from home in a refrigerator without the LRHC. Mandatory LEEDS reporting even if it is a negative report. More than one vehicle, people need to fill out more than one form. Cannot sell to Retail, no restaurants. Someone should sell them at the Farmer's Markets, Thursdays in Deer Isle and Fridays in Stonington.
b. State of Maine is losing diggers over the last 9 years. Started at around 1700 total clam harvesters in Maine 9 years ago, down to around 1200 last year. Most of those have been a drop in Student Licensing and Aging out.
c. Ideas for Kid's Clam Day during the summer where kids can go digging with clam harvesters for a tide to learn, get muddy and go home. Also ideas of "Family Licenses" where a parent buys a "Family License" good for 2-3 days and the whole family, Mom, Dad and kid's can try clamming together.
2. Kayne couldn't make tonight's meeting with clam cakes, but will be at the "Tie up loose ends" meeting before the 4th with samples. Research how much it cost for 2 - 4oz clam cakes at restaurants in Maine. They sell for \$10.99 - \$12.89. Committee voted to sell 2 - 4 oz clams cakes for \$12.00.
3. Shellfish Committee started a checking account so that we will be able to take credit / debit cards on the 4th. Should we charge more for using the Square Card app due to costs of using the app. Tips or Donation section in the app as well.
We will need at least \$300 - \$400 to start in cash to be able to provide change. \$200 in \$1's, \$100 in \$5's and \$100 in \$10's. Should be able to get that from Fundraising Funds through Stonington or Shellfish Grant funds through Deer Isle. Have stickers to sell for \$1.00 so hoping to have enough 1's to get through the day.
4. T-shirts have been ordered through Maine Camp Outfitters with the \$230 coming from the Shellfish Fundraising Account through Stonington. A 6ft. X 2 ft. banner was also ordered on the 10th, which the cost will also come from the same account.
5. Meeting to "Tie up loose ends" for the 4th of July fundraiser set for June 30th, 5 pm at the Deer Isle Town Hall.

Report from Warden:

There is nothing to report this month.

Other Topics of Discussion:

Concern that we won't have the amount of volunteers that actually signed up. We should have enough people to help.

Some people that signed up to donate clams don't have their town licenses yet and it's uncertain they will by then. With that we have 250 lbs for possible donation. Alvah and Bill said they would donate a full tide. Kurt will donate a night and day tide.

We will need to make sure to weigh a pound and 1/2 for each bag steamed.

Should have 24 - 9 inch bait bags to steam clams in. Will ask "the Girls" if they could donate 12.

Already have 12 as a donation from Industrial Marine.

Bring some T-shirts to next quick meeting to hand out to the volunteers that will be helping on the 4th.

Everyone who helps on the 4th of July at the Fish Pier will get a free T-shirt unless they would still like to donate the \$20. We will be having everyone wear the same T-shirt at the booth.

Have a Donation Can set up at the booth as well.

Will need 3 tables - Bill and Crystal have 1, can get other 2 from Stonington Town Hall.

Next Meeting: September 10th, 6 pm Stonington Town Hall.

Meeting Adjourned - 6:55 PM

Crystal Grove

Billy Jones S.D.

Paul M.A.

Phelps Brown