

**Freeport Shellfish Commission  
Meeting  
September 14, 2017**

**Attendees:** Malcolm M., Jared L., Nora H. Chris G. and Charlie T. (Marine Resource Conservation Officer)

**Meeting Commenced:** At 6:30 pm

**Public Comment:** There was discussion of how well landings are tracking for this year. Some expressed that this has been a great season, with lots of harvestable clams. Pete Thayler explained that landings data will be available at the Fishermen's Forum. Informal reports from the Mid-Coast area suggest that there were lots of harvestable clams in the Mid-Coast.

Charlie reported that worming activity has fallen off, but is likely to pick up in the winter.

**New Business:** A new slate of officers was discussed:

- Chris as Chair
- Nora as Secretary
- Jared as Vice-Chair
- Malcolm as Treasurer

**Motion #1:** Nora moved to approve the above slate of officers. Jared seconded. All voted in favor.

**Marine Resource Officer's Report:** Charlie mentioned the fact that it is strange that the age for a commercial license is 12, but the age for a student license is 14. This seems inconsistent. It's something that we may want to fix in the future.

There was also discussion of how to publish closures better.

Code enforcement is investigating a PVC pipe running into Spar Cove that could be potentially discharging sewage or other waste.

**Motion #2:** Nora moved to have Charlie pursue water quality testing in this area of Spar Cove, and to spend up to \$2,000 from the water quality fund on this effort. Jared seconded. All voted in favor.

**Motion #3:** Nora moved to delegate authority to Charlie to award conservation time for diggers that are interested in helping with this water quality testing effort. Doug seconded. All voted in favor.

Charlie also suggested that we think about awarding conservation time for diggers mentoring those that may be interested in obtaining licenses at some point.

The Commission and the public discussed conservation closures for Fall and Winter.

There was consensus from the Commission to not make a change to conservation closures at this time. The Commission will revisit the possibility of conservation closures for the Spring in December.

Malcolm will provide a Treasurer's Report at the next meeting explaining the funding left in the water quality fund and in the regular budget.

**Freeport Shellfish Conservation Commission**

**September 14, 2017**

**Freeport Community Center 6:30 PM**

**Call to order**

**Determination of Quorum**

**Reading of minutes from last meeting**

**Approval of Minutes from last meeting**

**Open to public comment**

**( 3 minute per person limit please )**

**New business from public comment to be considered for future meetings**

**Close meeting to public comment**

**Assignment of new secretary and other positions**

**Marine Resource Officer report**

**Listing of current year agenda items**

**Consideration for New business**

**Adjournment**