**Freeport Shellfish Conservation Commission**

**8/10/2023**

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Chad Coffin, Sara Randall, Sarah Warren, Michael Ashby, Gina LeDuc-Kuntz, Kap Wallingford, Nelson Larkins

Quorum achieved. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

Chad Coffin made a motion to approve 3 sets of minutes previously sent to the Committee, with edits from Nelson Larkins. Mike seconded. All in favor, minutes approved.

Marine officer’s report:

Introduce Greg Mears, who supports both Shellfish and the Harbormaster.

Town Council approved the verbiage regarding holding a second lottery with any licenses not filled in the first lottery.

The other changes proposed were not moved forward to Town Council as of yet, and there will be one or two workshops in September as an opportunity to provide context.

Recompense Bay Closure:

2 sites had spikes, they seems to have annual shifts, closure August 1st to November 30th. Map had been sent around via email. Discussion of Wolfe’s Neck Farm animal husbandry runoff. Questions about survey and report. Questions about testing methodology. Discussion of testing protocol regarding testing from shore versus by boat, bags vs bottles (FDA recommends testing by boat). Informal meeting next week with Eric Sroka to get dialed in on the cause, possible trends.

Reminder of 6/8/23 vote to use remaining budget to RFP for a survey.

Special studies account:

Mike made a motion to allocate up to $10,000 to make a video, hoping to secure matching funds from local planning grants, with the purpose of creating visuals for education and awareness. Sara seconded. All in favor, motion approved.

Review of what happened with student license lottery this year, and how the apprentice program will help get new people involved.

Mike motioned to adjourn. Kap seconded. All in favor. Adjourned at 7:11pm