



Town of Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts
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November 2014 Report

It is evident that this year's bay scallop season for Oak Bluffs is below average and only a few fishermen are going out. As a result of this I recommend that the Harbor be opened for recreational quahogging the first Saturday in December. The commercial opening to be on December 8.

The Community Preservation Act proposal "Shoreline Resiliency Through Saltmarsh Restoration" has been submitted. I made a short power point presentation to the Community Preservation Committee on the 17th.

I filed an interim report on Farm Pond to the grantors (Conservation Law Foundation) of the \$80,000 funding. The consultant, Fuss and O'Neil, should have the 25% drawings soon to submit to MA Department of Transportation.

The department has been approved to have a "Senior Citizen Tax Work-Off Abatement Program" worker. It will be Tommy Morrison again this year. He has been our go to guy when something breaks down. He has a vast knowledge he is a retired from being a shift maintenance supervisor for a very large IBM plant in upstate New York.

I have heard nothing new from Federal Emergency Management Agency about the Little Bridge Channel. I have asked Bob for an update, but have not received a reply to his email.

I made presentations at both the International Invasive Sea Squirt and Restore America's Estuaries (RAE) conferences with positive feedback. At the RAE conference I was able to speak with potential funding agencies and met one person that had reviewed a Farm Pond proposal. She remembered the proposal and said it was a case of we were eleventh and they had money to fund ten. We lost points as they wanted the projects to be closer to "shovel ready" She encouraged me to resubmit in the 2015 round of finding.

At the RAE conference I was also able to meet privately with Tay Evens of MA DMF about the damages to the eelgrass meadows around the bridge construction and she will be scheduling a site visit to see for herself.

I attended a talk given at RAE by MA Coastal Zone Management on the potential of allowing sand mining to nourish beaches in MA. If approved the closest proposed dredge area is about 3 miles offshore. I also attended a meeting at the Martha's Vineyard Commission on this topic on the 13th. I gave a presentation to the Selectmen to start a discussion on this topic.

The initial Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation report was also presented to the Board of Selectmen today.

All our culture gear has been brought in. There is a WHOI experiment out that is looking at two different types of material that may discourage bio-fouling. These will be out for at least another month. We will keep a boat in the Lagoon until that experiment has run its course.

Respectfully submitted,