

ARROWSIC FISH COMMISSION
MINUTES
26 MARCH 2026
Arrowsic Town Hall at 6 p.m

Present:

Karen Robbins
Jack Witham
Wendy Van Dyke
Vince Capone
Angel Braestrup

Missed:

Mike McMahon
Jeff Pinette

1. **Minutes:** The minutes of the 26 February AFC meeting were approved as presented by unanimous consent.
2. **Public Comment:** There were no members of the public present.
3. **Spring 2026 In-Migration Monitoring**
 - a. The trap is to go in with minimal repairs needed—probably the third week of April until roughly 30 days later.
 - b. It was agreed that some time would have to be spent right before the trap went in – Karen is to notify fish commissioners and other volunteers of appropriate work morning.
 - c. Barn at 551 Arrowsic to be used as staging area
4. **May Harvest Details:** It was affirmed that up to six bushels of alewives are permitted to be harvested, with an additional take of up to 24 alewives for educational purposes.
 - a. It was agreed that arrangements would be made to ensure that the town was informed of the harvest.
5. **Stream Project update:** The commissioners agreed that improvements have to be made to restore the free passage of both adult and juvenile alewives. The continuing drought and the intrusion of cattails has further exacerbated the problem of the stream not being quite deep enough for easy passage of fish.

6. Indigenous use of Alewives: Karen reported on her further exploration of getting first hand (or oral history) of the use of alewives by the indigenous people of the region.

7. Other topics:

- a. **Annual meeting:** The necessary language has been submitted to the Select Board for approval at the Town Meeting in June.
- b. **Next Meeting:** after some discussion, the meeting date was changed to 30 April 2026 to better accommodate commissioners' schedules.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:45.