



**Gloucester Fisheries Commission
Minutes of December 19, 2019**
Gloucester City Hall 9 Dale Ave.
Third Floor Conference Room, 7 p.m.

2020 JAN 17 AM 8:52
CITY CLERK
GLOUCESTER, MA

Al Cottone, Executive Director
Mark Ring, Chair
Scott Memhard, Vice Chair

Commission Members

Angela Sanfilippo
Paul Vitale
Scott Swicker
Dave Leveille
Joseph Orlando
Michael Orlando
Sam Novello

Members Present: Al Cottone, Mark Ring, Joe Orlando, Sam Novello, Dave Leveille, Scott Swicker, Paul Vitale

Call to Order

Mr. Ring called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Swicker made a motion to approve the minutes from November 21, 2019, Mr. Orlando seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Update on March Seafood Show.

There was a meeting two weeks ago and there is another one on Friday, December 20, 2019. The spotlight will be on haddock, but they will also feature dabs, yellow tail, and grey sole. Dabs and yellow tail quotas will be raised. It will be a similar format and location. Not sure how many passes the city will have.

Discussion about cutting the cod quota.

Update on Recent RODA and BOEM Wind Meetings.

The RODA meeting was held in Gloucester was informative. Mr. Cottone went to the task force meeting, could not comment until the end of the presentations. Government officials, environmentalists, and windmill professionals were on the task force. Discussion about lack of North Shore fishing industry representation on the task force. Discussion about the floating windmills and how they are anchored to the bottom and could cause issues for the right whale.

Letters to Delegation Regarding At Sea Monitors.

Discussion about the letter and adding the language about making the funding permanent and including the analysis that Vito did regarding sector 2. Discussion about observers being taken over by NOAA and not handled by the individual Northeast Fisheries sectors. Request that the NMFS should have more oversight in screening the observer company's bill.

Approving the letter with the three changes.

Mr. Novello made a motion to approve the letter with the three mentioned changes, the motion was seconded by Mr. Swicker, and was approved unanimously.

Old Business. Annisquam Dredge Update.

Discussion about they are now just below the 23 buoy, there is a lot of hard mud there. They have already done one survey where they worked. One of the tugs was down. They are making the channel 8 feet at low tide and widening the channel to the width it was in the 1960s. They have an extension until February 16th.

New Business

Meeting about survey for telecommunications cable coming in, it will only affect the lobster industry. They will start survey work in January and 2021 they will do the cable. They will do the survey work at night.

Discussion about buoy-less lines. The technology works but it won't work, and it is cost prohibitive.

Oral Communications.

Susanne Altenburger, discussion about no follow up with groundfish change in 1994, giving a copy of December article in *Messing About in Boats*, and lays out in detail about ineffective federal regulations.

Mr. Joseph Orlando noted it was unfair to recognize Glenn Delaney for his income in the article.

Motion to Adjourn

Sam Novello made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Swicker seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.