

Gloucester Fisheries Commission
Meeting Minutes – February 19, 2015

Commission Members

Mark Ring, Chair
Al Cottone, Vice Chair
Paul Vitale
Greg Verga, City Council

Joseph Orlando
BG Brown
Angela Sanfilippo
Scott Swicker

Present: Mark Ring, BG Brown, Paul Vitale, Angela Sanfilippo, Greg Verga, Joe Orlando

Absent: Scott Swicker, Al Cottone

Fisheries Commission Chair Mark Ring called the Meeting to order at 7:01 PM. The Meeting was held in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Gloucester City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA.

Meeting Minutes

The Commission Members reviewed and discussed the Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2015.

Angela Sanfilippo made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2015. The motion was seconded by Paul Vitale.

The Motion passed by the majority of Commission Members present; 6:0.

Commission Discussion: The 2015 Boston Seafood Show

Commission Member, Angela Sanfilippo shared with the Commission Members an update regarding the construction progress of the booth which will be used for the Seafood show.

A schedule as to who will be present at the booth during the Seafood Show will be discussed and done by those who are volunteering to be at the Seafood Show.

Commission Discussion: The Fisheries Summit

The Commission discussed the Fisheries Summit which was held on Friday, January, 16, 2015 at the Kyrouz Auditorium, Gloucester City Hall.

Commission Discussion: National Standard 1 and the Ongoing Revisions

Vito Giacalone, Volunteer Chair of Governmental Affairs for the Northeast Seafood Coalition and the Gloucester Fisheries Commission Members discussed the fact that NOAA (The National Oceanic Atmospheric Association) has issued a proposed rule to revise the General section of the National Standard guidelines and the guidelines for

National Standards 1, 3, and 7 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Distribution of Bin 2 and Bin 3 Disaster Relief Funds

The Commission Members discussed the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act which allows Congress to appropriate funds to provide economic assistance to fishing businesses and communities, and fishermen. The Commission Members also discussed the progress of the distribution of the Bin 2 funds and the fact that there will be a meeting with NOAA on March 13th regarding Bin 3.

Commission Discussion: An Executive Director for the Fisheries Commission

Greg Verga shared an update with the Commission Members regarding his research of the history of the past Executive Directors of the Fisheries Commission and of the Fisheries Commission. He said the State Legislation regarding the Fisheries Commission was outdated and that there is a meeting scheduled for February 27th to discuss the State Legislation.

The Cape Ann Commercial Fishermen's Loan Fund

The Commission Members discussed Cape Ann Commercial Fishermen's Loan Fund which provides money for fishing businesses that have exhausted traditional loan avenues and the fact that the Committee along with the assistance of Attorney Salvatore J. Frontiero will be developing a new, streamlined, application process for the loans.

Motion to Adjourn

Greg Verga made a motion to adjourn.

BG Brown seconded the motion.

The Motion passed by the majority of Commission Members present; 6:0.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on March 19, 2015, in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Gloucester City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA, and will commence at 7 PM.