



CITY OF GLOUCESTER FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday – January 19, 2017

Commission Members

Mark Ring, Chair
Bill Muniz
Paul Vitale
Scott Memhard, City Councilor
Scott Swicker

Joseph Orlando
BG Brown
Angela Sanfilippo

Al Cottone, Executive Director of the Fisheries Commission

The Fisheries Commission Chair Mark Ring called the Meeting to order at 7:43 pm. The Meeting was held in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Gloucester City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA.

Present: Mark Ring, Paul Vitale, Bill Muniz, Scott Memhard, Joseph Orlando – Executive Director Al Cottone

Absent: BJ Brown, Paul Vitale, Angela Sanfilippo

Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2016 and December 21, 2016.

Bill Muniz made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2016 and December 21, 2016.

Joe Orlando seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a majority of Commission Members present.

New Business

The Commission Members reviewed a letter drafted by the Executive Director Al Cottone.

“The Gloucester Fisheries Commission would like to express its support for the Northeast Seafood Coalition Associated Fisheries of Maine and the Gloucester Fishing Community Preservation Fund, on their work on the recent witch benchmark assessment. Through their efforts the work of the Science Center, it the Fisheries Commission hope that we can keep improving on the science for witch flounder and all other species in the future.”

Scott Swicker made a motion to support the letter drafted by AI with the edits suggested during the Commission discussion about the letter and for it to be sent on behalf of the Commission.

Scott Memhard seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a majority of the Commission Members present.

Chair Mark Ring initiated a conversation and asked if the Commission would like write a letter in support of the reappointment of the Program Director of the membership organization Northeast Sector Service Network Elizabeth "Libby" Etrie to the New England Fisheries Management Council.

(The 18 voting members of the Council include the Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries in the Greater Atlantic Region (GARFO) and the five principal state officials with marine fishery management responsibility (or their designee) from CT, ME, MA, NH, and RI.

Twelve other NEFMC members are nominated by the governors of the New England coastal states and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce for three-year terms. Additionally, four non-voting members represent the United States Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of State, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.)

Joe Orlando made a motion to support a letter to support the re-appointment of Elizabeth Etrie to the NEMFC.

Scott Swicker seconded the motion.

Bill Muniz opposed.

The motion was passed by a majority of the Commission Members present.

Motion to Adjourn

Scott Memhard made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Joe Orlando seconded the motion.

The Motion was passed by a majority of the Commission Members present.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the Chair declared the Meeting to be Adjourned at 8:10 PM.

The next regularly meeting of the Fisheries Commission is scheduled for February 16, 2017, to be held in the Third Floor Conference Room of Gloucester City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA and it will begin at 7:00 PM. The date, location and time of the meeting is subject to change. Please refer to the City web site: Gloucester-ma.gov prior to the meeting for details.