

**Gloucester Fisheries Commission**  
Meeting Minutes - September 15, 7pm  
Gloucester City Hall, First Floor Conference Room

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

Commission Members

Joseph Orlando  
Paul Vitale  
Scott Swicker  
Dave Leveille  
Angela Sanfilippo

Vice Chair Scott Memhard was absent. There are currently two empty seats on the commission.

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**Call to Order**

Mark Ring motioned, Al Cottone seconded, and a quorum was presented at 7:02

**Approval of July Minutes**

- Not all members had a chance to review the minutes; approval postponed.

**Gloucester Fresh Update (Newburyport Tasting Event)**

- Al Cottone and Angela Sanfilippo went to a successful networking event in Newburyport. Seven restaurants gave early commitments of interest. The mayors of Gloucester and Newburyport met at the event and showed mutual support for the event.
- Scott Memhard has requested Sal, the contact for Gloucester Fresh, present at next committee meeting.

**Discussion on Senate Bill #1322 re:Fishery Advisory Committee, fisheries research and SK Grants**

- Mark Ring mentioned that this proposed bill has come of a new advisory committee to divert tariff money that has never before gone to research and SK Grants. This will be presented next month.
- Angela Sanfilippo mentioned that Kathy Turner, last year's Saltonstall Kennedy Fund Grants Gloucester grant applicant. As no Gloucester applications are currently submitted, Mark Ring expressed a plan to contact Morgan Bell and others.

**Vote:** Paul Vitale motioned, Mark Ring seconded, and all were in favor of drafting a public letter on behalf of Gloucester fisheries to initiate a grant application to the Saltonstall Kennedy Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

**Update on operational assessments of groundfish stocks**

- Al Cottone updated the commission on September assessment, which finds very little groundfish. The year-long State and Federal survey seem in accordance. Nothing will be finalized by next month's meeting but a completed assessment will be published next fishing year.
- Discussion of the effectiveness of assessment models and data collection ensued.
- Joe Orlando recommended those interested in this topic attend the November SSC Meeting.

#### **Discussion of the MA Fishermen's Partnership event at Boston Fish Pier**

- Angela Sanfilippo felt it was a great event. Almost three hundred people attended. A lot of non-industry people were present to socialize and partner with fishermen. Two new promotional videos were screened.

#### **Discuss upcoming Fisheries Council meeting in Gloucester**

- The Fisheries Council meeting will take place September 26th-28th at Beauport Hotel.
- Topics will include: Amendment 23, Framework 57: Species Sharing with Yellowtail and Cod, Haddock.
- Al Cottone plans to make a statement of opposition re: Whiting and to submit a group letter at the meeting. Other commission members will plan to comment.
- A public meeting on state boundaries lines will take place Wednesday, September 27th at DMF on Emerson Ave at 7:00pm.
- Discussion of politics around whiting ensued.

#### **Old Business**

- **Cenotaph update:**
  
- **Dredging meeting update:**

#### **New Business**

- The *Dead in the Water* documentary will be screened on Saturday November 18, 2017 at 3:00pm, Rockport High School. A second screening is planned for December 15th in New Bedford, with a potential third at Gloucester City Hall later this year. Angela requested help promoting the documentary on social media.
- The previously discussed Atlantic cable project has been rerouted out of Gloucester waters.
- The Secretary of the Interior requested a reversal of the Monument Act. The Pacific Law foundation is still suing.
- Healy & MLA filed a letter against five year energy management leases.
- An 8% tariff against lobsters shipped from U.S. to Europe went into effect today, September 21, 2017, increasing competition with Canadian lobstermen.

### **Public Comment**

Susanne Altenburger *66 Atlantic Street, Gloucester* spoke about her recent activities and industry observations. The question on her mind was, What should a 21st century fishing fleet look like? She passed out a Greenwire article titled, "Former NOAA official pushed policies that benefit his company" by Emily Yehie, E&E News reporter.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Scott Swicker motioned to adjourn, Paul Vitale seconded, and the motion carried unanimously at 8:04.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Kirsten Vega, Recording Secretary, 21 September 2017.