

CITY CLERK  
GLOUCESTER, MA

2019 JUL 22 AM 8:01

**Gloucester Fisheries Commission**  
**Minutes of May 16, 2019**  
Gloucester City Hall 9 Dale Ave.  
First Floor Conference Room, 7 p.m.

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

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm

**Attendees:** Al Cottone, Mark Ring, Dave Leveille, Sam Novello, Scott Swicker, Mike Orlando, Angela Sanfilippo, Paul Vitale

**Presentation on Effects of Fluoride to the Marine Environment- Karen Spencer**

Karen Spencer presented on the effects of fluoride to the marine environment. She shared her father was one of the original members of the Fisheries Commission and he opposed fluoridation. She discussed the dumping 5 tons into water system every year. There is more science on the effects of fluoridation on fresh water than salt water. She provided list of citations related to effects of fluoride on the environment and asked the Commission to also consider the effects on fisherman themselves. She stated that in Massachusetts the City Council is the only entity that can take steps to end fluoridation. She requested the Fisheries Commission to support anti-fluoridation. She also noted the levels added are .7ppm with the natural occurring levels in Gloucester is at .3ppm. She stated that fluoride is harvested from industrial waste from factories in Shang Hai. She is working on a bill with Senator Tarr and shared an example from Sandy, Utah when too much fluoride was accidentally added, and it started dissolving the pipes and making people sick.

Jessica McGovern of Manchester, MA discussed how fluoride is dumped in the Ocean and has harmful effects. She stated not one town on Cape Cod adds fluoride to their water.

Mr. Novello noted that pollution, is pushing the fish further out. Mr. Ring made a statement that the Fisheries Commission is not favor of anything going into the water, but the Commission doesn't have enough information to vote on it. The commission discussed having more time to be educated on the topic.

Patty mentioned that it is an insecticide and is harmful to lobsters and Allen Mcknowlen of Rockport stated that 2% goes to drinking water and 98% goes into sewers/the ground. He stated there is no grocery store filter available that will take it out.

### **Executive Directors Misc. New Fishing Year, Whiting**

Mr. Cottone shared that the whiting project is in the works. He stated that Ryan Silva, NOAA Project Manager said they would get 50-60 trips with observer coverage and projected the 1st and 2nd week of June. Mr. Cottone also noted that he wrote up a proposal and the Commission sent a letter to the Council to get an earlier start date for next year. Mr. Novello shared that he has whiting nets if anyone needs them. Ms. Sanfilippo thanked Sam Novello for his work on this issue.

### **MFP Update on Vineyard Wind and Dead in the Water**

Commission members discussed the success of the Dead in the Water event in Minneapolis. They noted the food was excellent and the event was sold out. The Commission noted gratitude to Rebecca Bell who put the event on. They noted that people were angry at the injustice shown and they had the opportunity to meet with Congressmen. They discussed additional events, including one in Arkansas.

The Commission discussed the Vineyard Wind meeting that day with the total mitigation amount at \$9 billion. The Commission discussed the problem with the Vineyard Wind studies and discussed a study by Dr. King. Mr. Cottone noted that the state has the power to give them the MEPA certificate. Mr. Cottone stated they justified the numbers using landing data and BTR data. He noted they are taking landings data and not including the transmission line.

The Commission discussed not having enough resources to help people who can't fish in those areas. Ms. Sanfilippo shared that she had a review with Senator Tarr he is going to put money in to do a socio-economics study.

Mr. Cottone noted they are only going to contribute \$196 million a year and Vineyard Wind was going to pay for research, 4 surveys a year, and then it would be included into stock assessments.

Mr. Vitale noted that everyone is getting boarded down there and they are getting fined.

### **Gloucester Fresh Update**

The Commission discussed Blue Harvest handling the Ninety-Nine restaurant account. It was noted that Blue Harvest bought Jimmy Olin's boats in New Bedford. The Ninety-Nine wanted to assure that they would still support them as Gloucester Fresh. The fish will be cut in Taunton but unloaded in Gloucester. The Ninety-Nine will require on every purchase order that they were offloaded in Gloucester. The Commission discussed getting

a confirmation from Fisherman's Wharf and making sure the landings match the purchase order. General discussion about Gloucester Fresh and supporting Fisherman's Wharf, the fuel, and ice companies.

**Mr. Ring, made a motion to accept Blue Harvest into the Gloucester Fresh program, on behalf of the Ninety-Nine, Mr. Leveille seconded the motion and it was approved by the Majority of Commission members. Mike Orlando abstained from vote.**

The Commission discussed Maine exports to China is down, and 13% of exports are lobster, there was a discussion about how the oceans are changing and having an effect on fish.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Mr. Vitale made a motion to accept the minutes from March 2018 and April 18,2019, Mr. Orlando seconded the Motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

### **Motion to Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.