



City of Gloucester
Fisheries Commission Minutes
Thursday, September 15, 2011- 7:00PM
Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall
9 Dale Avenue

Members:

David Bergeron	Paul Vitale
Bruce Tobey	Mark Ring
Sefatia Romeo Theken	Joseph Orlando
Angela Sanfilippo	BG Brown
Al Cottone	Gus Sanfilippo (Absent)

Also in Attendance:

From Action Inc.: Timothy Riley (Executive Director) and Rona Resnick (Director of Employment and Training). Several citizens were also in attendance.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Commission **Chair David Bergeron** at 7:10PM . Mr. Bergeron welcomed all the guests and thanked everyone for coming. He noted that this is the fourth meeting since re-establishing the commission and that the discussion for the evening would continue to work towards mapping out the goals and vision of the Commission.

Ms. Romeo-Theken noted that BG Brown had been temporarily appointed to the Commission by the Mayor, but his appointment still needs to be confirmed by the City Council. She and **Mr. Tobey** voiced their support of his appointment as did all present. And **Mr. Bergeron** welcomed him to the commission.

2. Minutes of the August 18, 2011 meeting

MOTION: Ms. Sanfilippo motioned to accept the minutes from the August 18, 2011 meeting. **Mr. Tobey** seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved without discussion. [9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 absent (G. Sanfilippo)]

3. Presentations by Community Organizations

ACTION, INC.:

Mr. Timothy Riley, Executive Director of Action, Inc. was the first to present before the Commission along with his colleague, Ms. Rona Resnick, Director of Employment and Training. Mr. Riley expressed his appreciation for the invitation to present before the reconstituted Fisheries Commission and relayed his optimism for the Commission's role in representing the interests of the fishing industry and supporting economic development initiatives on the working waterfront. To support the efforts of the Commission, Mr. Riley offered Action Inc's services as a partner organization for any ventures where the two bodies may have shared interests. Specifically, Mr. Riley proposed that Action Inc. and the Commission should consider joint initiatives where Action's 501c(3) nonprofit status could be used as a conduit to apply for grant funding that might not otherwise be available to the Commission. Several members of the Commission agreed that this partnership could benefit the City and was worth perusing once specific goals are formulated in the near future.

In an overview of the organization's beginnings and accomplishments, Mr. Riley began by noting that the roots of Action Inc. are tied closely with some of the family members and affiliations of current board members. In business for over 45 years, Action Inc. provides services and assistance to Cape Ann's low-income families. Mr. Riley mentioned Action Inc's role in the development of the Central Grammar Apartments, the creation of the Gloucester Development Investment Corporation, The Meals on Wheels Program, Child Development Programs (renamed Pathways for Children), The first Food Co-Op, the Fishermen's Loan Fund, and the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association as some of the organization's early noteworthy accomplishments. He also relayed that Action provided public transportation to the families of Cape Ann (at a financial loss to the organization) when the Transportation Authority went out of business in the 1970s.

In regards to programs designed specifically for the fishing families of Cape Ann, Mr. Riley noted that in the not-too-distant past, most fishing families would not have qualified for the services and assistance offered through Action Inc. However, given the economic climate of late and the hardships faced by many fishermen in current times, many fishing families now can and do take advantage of the organization's programs. Mr. Riley noted that there are even some members of fishing families at the Action Shelter in Gloucester.

Currently, Action Inc. is running a number of programs, including:

- *Benefits and Support Program:* A generalized assistance program designed for any individuals or families in need. Action case managers work one-on-one with clients who are facing a variety of challenges including difficulty affording food, housing or other basic needs. Individualized services plans are put in place for these clients and they are often referred to other appropriate local and state programs for assistance.

- *Fuel Assistance:* Action's Fuel Assistance program served over 2,000 families on Cape Ann last year. To qualify for this home heating assistance, clients are not required to be very low income; families with household incomes in the 50K range may qualify for fuel assistance. Mr. Riley noted that if a family is having difficulty covering their home heating costs and think they may qualify it is worth contacting Action to find out more.
- *Home Weatherization Program:* Action currently has a sizeable amount of funding available to assist Cape Ann families and individuals in weatherizing their homes. A comprehensive and thorough program, weatherization services offered by Action include window replacements, insulation and many other efficiency upgrade measures.
- *Action Inc. Shelter:* The Shelter has experienced growth recently because of the increase in volume of shelter visitors. Presently there are 60 individuals regularly staying at the shelter, most of whom are from Gloucester or Gloucester families. This number of regular visitors at the shelter presents somewhat of an issue for the shelter and its staff because it's a higher volume than the shelter can reasonably accommodate. Also of concern is the approaching winter, so the shelter staff has been working with the City (Police, Fire & Board of Health) and the Emergency Room at the Hospital to develop a crisis plan for Gloucester's homeless population. Although the shelter often gets bad press, it is offering crucial and essential services to the community. Dedicated and highly qualified staff at the shelter provide counseling and work closely with all those visiting the shelter to achieve sobriety and most important obtain permanent stable housing, which is the key to self-sufficiency.
- *Homecare Program:* This initiative offers in-home services for the elderly. Started as a pilot program with special grant funding, this program was the second of its kind in the state and has been used over the years as a model by other communities across the country.

Mr. Riley then turned the floor over to his colleague, Ms. Rona Resnick, who continued the discussion with an overview of Action's employment and training programs. These initiatives include options for individuals (including fishermen) interested in learning new skills or re-locating to an alternative line of work. Current offerings include Career Coaching, Medical Assistant Training, CNA/ HHA Training, Adult Basic Education, English as Second Language (ESOL), Computer Courses, and Fishing Families in Transition programs. Many of these educational programs focus on professional fields that offer the most employment opportunities on Cape Ann. Graduates from these programs have a high success rate of obtaining jobs immediately upon completing these programs.

Ms. Resnick went on to discuss the educational programs offered to Gloucester's young adults, citing statistics that high school drop outs earn approximately 37% less than their counterparts and are estimated to cost society approximately \$300K in the services and benefits they require over a lifetime. With these statistics in mind, Action runs multiple programs through its Compass initiative, where troubled high school students receive the individualized attention they need to successfully complete their diploma or GED. Ms. Resnick noted that many of the

students that have worked towards success through these programs have been members of fishing families.

As a follow up to the discussion covering the educational programs offered at Action, Ms. Resnick and members of the Commission discussed the strong and important partnership with the Career Center of Gloucester. In light of recent funding cuts, this Center was almost shut down but fortunately avoided closure with the help of Action and some other key community leaders. Moving forward, the Career Center will now operate out of a space at the Action Offices. It was noted that fishermen benefit greatly from the important services offered through the Career Center, including assistance in navigating the unemployment system in light of their unique employment status.

In closing, Ms. Resnick noted that Action Inc. also assists clients in obtaining Training Vouchers, which are a form of financial assistance available to qualifying individuals interested in acquiring training in a new career field. She encouraged anyone who might be eligible for services (especially fishermen) to seek out these education vouchers. She also noted that those who are already receiving certain other forms of assistance (food stamps, etc.) will qualify for significant funding under this program.

Mr. Riley provided a packet of program brochures to each of the Commission members. More on the organization's history and currently available services can be found on the organization's website: www.actioninc.org.

After the presentation covering the organization's history and present programming, the representatives from Action turned to a discussion regarding the potential for partnership with the newly reconstituted Fisheries Commission. Ms. Resnick suggested that the Commission brainstorm potential ideas for courses or training seminars that Action might be able to offer to benefit Gloucester fishermen. The idea to re-institute a Captain's Licensing course was discussed and received favorably, although it was noted that Gloucester has the highest number of commercial fishermen with Captains Licenses because of the success of the previous Fishing Family Center training program. The representatives from Action encouraged the Commission to consider other training areas that might assist fishermen in this difficult economic climate, and volunteered to assist in seeking grant funding for such a program should the need arise. Group size for such a training program would need to be 7-10 individuals.

Discussion

Mr. Mark Ring asked the representatives if fishermen might be able to use the Training Vouchers mentioned by Ms. Resnick to attend outside schools or training programs. It was clarified that the Career Center is the entity that distributes these vouchers, and that they could be made available so long as the fishermen qualify for that form of assistance [e.g. are unemployed]. Mr. Ring also noted that he was aware of some fishermen interested in obtaining a Captain's License, and that offering such a training program could be beneficial.

In regards to the general services available at present for fishing families on Cape Ann, **Ms. Romeo- Theken** noted that many services are currently limited due to the tight economic climate and cut-backs from the sources of these funds. She added that fishermen and their families face an added challenge of having a unique employment status which often makes them appear ineligible for traditional services and programs. It was determined that the Commission should work to find solutions to the systemic issues that come about due to fishermen's self-employed status and their tendency to have on-again/ off-again unemployment status. The availability of Action's funding from the LNG Terminal was also discussed, and it was stated that these funds have been almost entirely exhausted and are not expected to be replenished.

Health insurance and health benefits were also discussed. **Ms. Romeo- Theken** spoke of the need for volunteers from the Commission and wider community to accompany her to an upcoming meeting with the new Chair of CommonwealthCare, the state health insurance plan. She reiterated that it is essential for program administrators such as this new Chair to understand the unique needs of the commercial fishing industry. Ms. Romeo- Theken will send an email to the members of the Commission detailing the support she will need at this meeting. Ideally, representatives from all sectors of the fishing industry should be present. The representatives from Action, Inc. mentioned that they may have some contacts who could assist with this meeting. All present agreed that the main barrier to effective services for fishermen and their families is a lack of understanding over how commercial fishing works.

Ms. Marcia Hart, a citizen attending the meeting, asked the representatives from Action if they were still publishing an Annual Assessment of the community, seeing that the data from such a report could be useful to the Commission. Mr. Riley answered yes, such a report is made available every three years and could be furnished for the Commission upon request.

Ms. Hart asked a follow up question, regarding participation in Action's Compass program and whether or not students are able to remain immersed at Gloucester High School. Ms. Resnick explained that they do, and that their success in the program allows them to remain at Gloucester High, walk at graduation, etc. Without these services, these kids would not make it through the school. Most of the students in these programs are very intelligent but are in need of support due to social and emotional difficulties. Many students that have successfully completed the program have been children of fishermen, who while working to support the family business could not follow the traditional schedule and demands of high school. If not for this program, many would not graduate. A highly qualified and dedicated staff at Compass makes the program a success.

Mr. Damon Cummings, a citizen attending the meeting, asked if Compass students still have the opportunity to spend one day a week at the Heritage Center. It was relayed that they do regularly visit the Heritage Center, where they learn about Biology and other Sciences. There is a strong partnership between Action, Inc. and the Heritage Center.

Ms. Romeo- Theken commented that the City Council does not have the opportunity to learn about the variety of essential programs and services offered through Action, Inc. and that a presentation before the Council would therefore be beneficial.

Ms. Sanfilippo offered her gratitude to the representatives from Action, Inc. for all their hard work and dedication to the community. She noted that they offer crucial much needed services. All members of the Commission agreed. The Commission jointly thanked Mr. Riley and Ms. Resnick for their attendance and presentation and agreed that there will definitely be many opportunities for partnership between Action and the reconstituted Commission.

GLOUCESTER FISHERMEN'S WIVES ASSOCIATION

Ms. Angela Sanfilippo, President of the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association, presented next. She distributed some information on achievements of the organization (a copy has been included at the end of this report).

Ms. Sanfilippo discussed the GFWA's status as a 501c(6), which allows the organization to advocate and lobby for the fishing people they represent. The GFWA has also created the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Development organization, a 501c(3) nonprofit arm of the organization which allows for the collection of tax deductible donations and grants from private foundations.

Recent highlights of the organization's work included a discussion regarding working with scientists to measure the effects of carbon emissions on ocean wildlife, especially its harmful effects on shellbeds. Studies have shown that an increase in fuel/ exhaust from pleasure boats and other sources has had several negative impacts on the ocean environment.

Ms. Sanfilippo next discussed the GFWA's work to oppose the FDA's forthcoming potential certification of genetically engineered salmon. Aqua Bounty, a company based in Waltham, MA has recently sought approval from the FDA for this genetically engineered seafood. Ms. Sanfilippo spoke of her efforts to work with advocates across the country in opposition to this FDA approval. Commission members expressed concern over the development of such a species and agreed that the production of such a food product would be harmful for the environment, harmful for the industry, and potentially harmful for people's health. According to reports, these salmon will reproduce at a faster rate than natural species. Countries such as Norway that rely heavily on aquaculture have already experienced firsthand how the introduction to non-natural species can result in a drastic reduction in natural fish stocks. This Aqua Bounty issue has already gained attention at the national level, and Ms. Sanfilippo plans to continue to lobby Congressional representatives in order to prevent the approval of this food product. Mr. Tobey later added that this genetically engineered fish has been referred to as "frankenfish" and should be of great concern to the Commission. Apparently the fish is first sent to Canada to be sterilized and then shipped to South America for genetic engineering.

Ms. Sanfilippo then moved to a discussion on seafood branding. She let the Commission know that she is working with some officials at the state level to establish an official brand and marketing plan for Massachusetts caught seafood. A Commission is being created at the state level to pursue this issue further. Fisheries Commission members agreed that the creation of such a branding label could greatly benefit the Gloucester fleet.

Next, Ms. Sanfilippo noted the creation of a large-scale year-round indoor farmer's market at Faneuil Hall in Boston, which is currently under development. She recently attended a meeting regarding the development of this indoor market, which Mayor Menino strongly supports. The Agricultural Producers involved in the market have agreed that all farm products will solely be grown in Massachusetts. At the meeting, some expressed that MA- only production may not be possible with seafood due to availability issues, but Ms. Sanfilippo spoke to the contrary. On behalf of the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives, she informed those attending this meeting that there would be Gloucester based seafood producers interested in reserving space at market who could ensure that their seafood was "Massachusetts caught." Furthermore, she offered that Massachusetts-caught fish could be verified by the landing license associated with the boats landing the seafood. If a vessel is certified to land their seafood in Massachusetts, she said that seafood should be considered MA- caught fish. **Mr. Ring** discussed the possibility of selling lobster at this indoor market in Boston, which is also a considerable prospect. The Massachusetts Lobster Association (MLA) is looking into the possibility of having a year- round booth at the market. This could assist Massachusetts- based lobstermen in the competition they face on the market from "Maine- caught" lobsters.

Continuing the local food conversation, Ms. Sanfilippo informed the Commission of the upcoming Boston Local Food Festival. Last year, Cape Ann Fresh Catch (a program of the GFWA involving a partnership with Turner's Seafood) and the Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance (NAMA- also based in Gloucester) were the only fisheries based programs at this festival, which speaks to the need to bring more visibility and marketing to locally- caught seafood. This festival takes place on the first Saturday of October and will include a cooking demonstration by the members of the GFWA, a Seafood Throwdown organized by NAMA. Ms. Sanfilippo encouraged all who are available to attend this event.

Ms. Sanfilippo next covered her recent trip to visit fishing families in New Orleans who have been affected by the BP Oil Spill. This visit was very enlightening and contrary to the impression of media reports the effects of this oil spill are still deeply affecting the fishing communities down south. Personal accounts revealed that BP has been irresponsible in its handling of the disaster and its aftermath, and that the health of fishermen continues to be drastically impacted by this catastrophe. Ms. Sanfilippo's visit also reinforced the importance of protecting our own ocean against the prospects of oil drilling. At present, only Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary is permanently off-limits to oil drilling. The GFWA continues to fight for the permanent protection of Georges Bank and the Gulf of Maine from oil drilling.

Ms. Sanfilippo also recently made a presentation at the Woodrow Wilson International Center in Washington DC where she spoke of the value of keeping locally caught food local. She shared the statistic that 85% of the seafood consumed in the United States is imported from foreign countries. She also participated on a panel at this conference regarding the challenges associated with sustainable seafood.

Ms. Sanfilippo next discussed a recent collaboration between the GFWA and students from Regis College who will be performing a play detailing the history and influence of the GFWA. She invited all to attend this presentation, which will be sometime next spring.

Next, Ms. Sanfilippo discussed the successes of the GFWA's newest initiative, Cape Ann Fresh Catch (CAFC)- a Community Supported Fishery Program. Modeled on Community Supported Agriculture programs, CAFC is designed to bring new economic and marketing opportunities to Gloucester-based fishermen. Ms. Sanfilippo was pleased to relate that since its first season in 2008, CAFC has brought over \$1.7 million in outside revenues to the fishing community in Gloucester. The program has also supported the creation of 12 new jobs. Currently, the new fall season of this program has 725 members in 21 partner communities. There is a great deal of interest in expanding the program to new communities.

Discussion

Mr. Vitale asked Ms. Sanfilippo how many performances there will be of Regis College/ GFWA play. She let everyone know that there will be multiple performances at the Little Annie in Gloucester, after which the rights to the play will be given to the GFWA. The Regis College students will be coming to visit Gloucester this fall, and the presentation is next spring.

Mr. Ring asked how many shareholders participated in the Cape Ann Fresh Catch Program last year. Ms. Sanfilippo responded that the number of sharemembers varies seasonally, with the highest volume in the spring. Last year over 1000 sharemembers participated in the program. The fall and winter seasons have less sharemembers. Discussion continued over whether or not lobsters might be made available through the Cape Ann Fresh Catch Program. Ms. Sanfilippo offered that it was a possibility, but permitting was the main obstacle at this point. She also noted the vast amount of staff time and energy that goes into operating the program in its current form, and that adding new elements to the program must be done in a way that can be feasibly managed by its modest staff and program resources. Mr. Ring followed up by noting that the potential for branding MA- caught fish could be very beneficial for the CAFC program.

Mr. Bergeron also offered that the unique structure of this program opens new doors to the media and allows those involved to tell their story while selling fish. This element invites the consumer to become more involved with their food producers and make more informed food choices that can better serve the local economy. Mr. Bergeron also noted that Ms. Niaz Dorry, Executive Director of the Northwest Marine Alliance, is slated to attend the Commission meeting next month and can speak more to the benefits of the Community Supported Fishery model. This may open doors for other local fishermen (especially lobstermen) to look into creating a CSF venture of their own. Ms. Sanfilippo added that the education provided to the

public is one of the most important elements of the CAFC program. It has allowed the GFWA to continue its mission of educating the public on some of the underutilized species landed by the Gloucester fleet.

Ms. Sanfilippo also noted that she is working with Paul Diodati of the Mass Division of Marine Fisheries to create an outline of the regulations that are required to go fishing in Massachusetts. This information will be included on CAFC website as a means to better educate the public on the challenges faced by commercial fishermen.

Mr. Paul Vitale asked if the CAFC program provided its sharemembers with any whiting last season. Ms. Sanfilippo replied not last season, but it was distributed last spring and in the summer of 2010. She further explained that for each species that is delivered, information on the stock, the name of the boat that landed the vessel, and a recipe is provided for sharemembers via email.

Mr. Bergeron asked Ms. Sanfilippo to offer more details on the state-level Seafood Marketing Commission that the Legislature authorized. He was wondering how many members would be on this Commission, what the specific mission would be, whether a budget was in place, and if all sectors of the fishing industry were going to be represented (lobstermen, draggers, gillnetters, etc.). Ms. Sanfilippo replied that the Commission is still in its early stages, and that applications are being accepted for seats on the Commission. However, the application process is very involved, which may be deterring many fishermen from applying. The mission will be to see how to develop a specific seafood marketing plan for the state of Massachusetts. Several other states already have such marketing plans in place. Funding is currently being sought for the operation of this Commission.

Ms. Patti Page, a citizen attending the meeting, asked what people's thoughts were on a large supermarket chain's new sustainable seafood marketing campaign. She relayed that she was concerned over the certifications being provided through this campaign by the Marine Stewardship Council and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, especially considering that much of Shaw's seafood is Canadian caught. She also expressed her concern over the misuse of the word "sustainability." **Mr. Ring** agreed with her concern, and noted that adding the term "sustainability" to a product makes it more marketable, but if mistakenly employed is inherently dangerous for the concept of true sustainability. **Ms. Page** noted the success of a Rhode Island-based initiative called "Trace and Trust" which assigns barcodes to locally caught seafood so that restaurants and consumers have an easy and reliable means for discovering the origin of their seafood. Several members of the Commission relayed hearing of this initiative and agreed that it is a useful and beneficial tool.

Mr. Vitale followed up with a reference to the seafood campaign of a specialty food market chain that markets organic products and makes similarly misleading claims. The chain claims not to purchase any seafood from draggers (a potentially misleading claim in itself) and yet purchases a large volume of seafood from the Gloucester Seafood Display Auction and several

other local sources, many of which do in fact get their seafood from draggers. All members of the Commission agreed that the issue of sustainability and its recent misuse in marketing seafood was an area of great concern and deserves attention from the Commission. Ms. Sanfilippo pledged that the GFWA was prepared to stay on top of the issue and keep the Commission informed. Mr. Bergeron added that the growing movement around slow food or local food and sustainability was a new emerging opportunity that the local fleet should take advantage of.

Mr. Ring inquired how the Farmer's Market in Gloucester was going this year, and Ms. Sanfilippo responded that she had attended last week as part of the CAFC event and was pleased to see a large turnout. The discussion then turned to permitting requirements for selling your own seafood, to which **Ms. Sanfilippo** relayed a state dealers permit and municipal board of health permits are required for participation at most farmers markets. Other federal permits may be required if a fisherman is looking to sell his own catch. **Mr. Ring** then shared information with the Commission regarding a new state level program that allows lobsterman to register for the potential to provide large volumes (500-1000) of lobsters as needed for special events. It does not cost anything to join this program and offers a great opportunity for local lobstermen looking for an occasional side-venture.

Ms. Romeo-Theken added that regarding the branding issue, it is important for the Commission and other concerned citizens to ensure that anything branded as "Mass Caught" and especially "Gloucester Caught" lives up to the quality that should be associated with the community's seafood. The misuse of this branding could lead to negative perceptions of the fleet and its product. Gorton's changed its marketing strategy after GFWA requested they not confuse their product with Gloucester caught seafood.

In closing, **Ms. Sanfilippo** added one last note on the current efforts of the GFWA: she explained that the GFWA is solely responsible for maintaining the Fishermen's Wives Monument, which costs approximately \$10,000 annually. Despite fundraising efforts, the GFWA is having difficulty coming up with the funds to cover these costs and would greatly appreciate any support that may be available in the community.

Mr. Bergeron thanked Ms. Sanfilippo for her presentation.

4. Further Discussion

The Commission then turned to a discussion of next month's meeting agenda. **Mr. Bergeron** relayed that the Mayor has asked to have Ms. Sarah Garcia, Community Development Director for the City, speak regarding the grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to hold a two-day Maritime Industry Summit sometime in November. Mr. Bergeron also noted that Niaz Dorry of the Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance will be attending next month's meeting to give a presentation on the work of her organization.

Mr. Tobey proposed that formulating the Commission's long term goals be an item on next month's agenda. He also requested to set aside approximately 15 minutes from next month's meeting to allow local photographer Ernie Morin to present his working waterfront slideshow. The Commission agreed to both points.

Ms. Romeo-Theken agreed with the need to determine some long term goals for the Commission and also cited the necessity to deal with some specifics in the near future, such as proposed uses for I4-C2 and the need for more dockage space in the City. She noted that without specific data on the dockage issue, she is unable to bring the issue before the City Council. The Commission should work to get concrete numbers detailing the limited dockage space available for both landing seafood and docking vessels in the City. **Mr. Joseph Orlando** noted that there was in fact a shortage of dockage space in the City, especially for draggers. **Mr. Vitale** seconded **Mr. Orlando's** statement and noted that many draggers are piggy-backed two or three deep, which often causes hold-ups at the docks.

Mr. Bergeron reminded the Commission that the Chair of the Waterways Board expressed support at the Commission's August meeting to set up a joint ad hoc committee to deal with this issue of dockage in the City. The Fisheries Commission agreed that this would be of great benefit and appointed two members of the Commission to sit on this ad hoc committee: **Ms. Romeo-Theken** (with **Ms. Patti Page** as her designate if she is unable to attend) and **Mr. Orlando**. It is proposed that these two members sit on this subcommittee along with two members from the Waterways Board. Items to discuss include an inventory of boats and available dockage space in the City, the potential for a Marina in the Harbor, the potential for securing funding for the expansion of the State Fish Pier. **Mr. Bergeron** will contact the Chair of the Waterways Board as soon as possible about this ad hoc committee and report back at our next meeting. Commission members expressed the hope that this joint ad hoc committee would meet before the next Fisheries Commission meeting.

Ms. Marcia Hart commented on the recent appointment of two new members to the Waterways Board. She noted it was in the interest of the Fisheries Commission to be aware of the backgrounds of these new appointments and make sure any new appointments will have interests that align with the fishing industry when possible. **Ms. Romeo-Theken** relayed that the new appointments to the Waterways Board were designed to ensure proper support for the fishing industry. **Ms. Hart** also noted her support for the creation of the ad hoc committee with members from both the Fisheries Commission and the Waterways Board. **Mr. Tobey** followed up with comments stressing the importance of keeping close ties between the Fisheries Commission and Waterways Board.

Mr. Orlando brought up a media event that had taken place on I4C2 where Congressman **Barney Frank** came to Gloucester to speak on fisheries issues for Fox News, but no one from the Fisheries Commission had been informed prior that this visit was taking place. He said the Mayor was there as well, and he was confused because the Mayor said at the June meeting that she would look to the Commission to participate in any fisheries related events with visiting

public officials. Mr. Orlando wanted to know why this happened. It was noted that **Ms. Romeo-Theken** has already spoken with the Mayor and inquired as to why the Commission was not informed of this event ahead of time. The Mayor informed her that she had not been notified in advance either. **Mr. Tobey** said this often happened to him when he was mayor that these news events are set-up last minute and without adequate notice to the Mayor. The Commission asked the chair to address the question to the Mayor. **Mr. Bergeron** agreed to follow up with the Mayor regarding this request and for an explanation of the nature of what happened and how to avoid the problem in future. Commission members will be copied on the correspondence.

5. Agenda for the Next Meeting: October 20, 2011. 7:00PM

The next meeting of the Fisheries Commission, to be held at the Sawyer Free Library Friends Room, will have the following Agenda:

1. Presentation from City of Gloucester Community Development Director Sarah Garcia regarding the Maritime Industry Summit to be held in Gloucester in November.
2. Presentation from Niaz Dorry, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance.
3. Slideshow presentation from Ernie Morin
4. Update & Discussion of the joint Waterways/ Fisheries Ad Hoc Committee
5. Long Term Goals/ Vision of the Fisheries Commission
6. Discussion

6. Adjournment

MOTION: **Mr. Tobey** motions to adjourn the meeting. **Mr. Cottone** seconds. Motion unanimously approved, meeting adjourned at 9:23PM.