

WEfish Meeting Minutes 12/6/15

Mission of *WEfish*: to preserve the legacy and promote the value of commercial fishing in our families and community through promotion, education, outreach, and service.

- I. Order: Trisha moved to call the meeting to order, Andrea 2nd.
- II. Attendance: Molly Bold, Trisha Woodward, Andrea Towle, Adrienne Jones, Greg Mueller, John Shaw, Jody Pope
- III. Approval of Minutes: Adrienne moved to approve, Jody 2nd.
- IV. Open Business:
 - a. Scholarships:
 - i. Deadline to have scholarship ready is beginning of 2015. Sara Beese has submitted the scholarship. By consensus of those in attendance, agreed on 500 word essay focused on how commercial fishing has impacted your life, GPA of 3.0 or higher and increase to \$1000 (to university or trade school) for 2015. Scholarship amount needs approval each year depending on funds available.
 - b. Treasury Report
 - i. Lost Fishermen's Fund: \$981.80
 - ii. General fund:
 - c. Logo/Branding/Sweatshirts:
 - i. KC sport fishing is willing to give *WEfish* members a discount.
 - ii. Once we have moved forward on new *Wefish* attire, will follow up on stores willing to sell our sweatshirts. Sarah-Deep Sea Charters? Marci-Englund Marine & Islander?
 - iii. Alysa is moving forward on new design. Needs logo to finish design to show to group. **Molly will follow up**. We have excess of 2X and 3X sizes. By consensus of those in attendance reduced to \$20 clearance price for sweatshirts on website.
 - d. Life Jacket Loaner Program:
 - i. We Fish was fully funded for this program. The GH Community Foundation approved our grant but we were referred to and fully funded by the Community Foundation of South Puget Sound. They disperse funds using money left by Netty Rose Fairington. They feel our idea is something Netty would wholeheartedly support. Waiting to hear on approval and amount of grant. Whatever is not covered, GH Foundation will cover the rest.
 - ii. Josh Roehrlich has agreed to build the life jacket stations.
 - iii. **A report is due to grantors at 6 months (6/30/16)**. Include report on loss, progress, what we learned, did things go as

- planned, unexpected benefits or obstacles, include pictures of completion.
- iv. Grantors suggested highly publicizing new program once in place including a list of all involved, community collaboration is very important to grantors.
 - e. Cookbooks-
 - i. Discount them (Now \$12 each or \$8 each wholesale for 10 or more) to sell the approx. 375 left. Sold at Luna Rana & Breakwater Seafoods.
 - ii. Start collecting recipes for fall of 2016, 2nd edition. Who is collecting?
 - f. December mailing, send to our member list at a minimum
 - i. By consensus of those in attendance viewed and approved *Wefish* Season's Greeting card.
 - ii. Molly is ordering calendars and working on a membership renewal, cover letter, etc.
 - g. Website-
 - i. A motion was unanimously passed to approve \$250 of funds to upgrade our website to include our calendar of events, photo gallery, meeting notification, add a repository for past minutes and newsletters, possible blog site that links to FB and website? Trisha send out 4 suggested designs to the board for feedback.
 - ii. Need to add logo for The Port of Grays Harbor, they just joined as corporate members, as well as a thank you and logo for grantors of life jacket program, and donation from PSA Anglers and ?
 - iii. List all recurring meetings to encourage and promote attendance such as Port Commissioner's Meetings, Chamber meetings, City of Westport, Museum, other fisheries, etc.
 - h. FLIPP-
 - i. Fisherman Led Injury Prevention Program- Jody Pope was hired to collect surveys before Coast Guard regulations come down in 2020 for crab specific fishery. 50 surveys have been gathered so far, she will be traveling to collect more. Has received a good response so far. Let her know how many surveys you need to assist in completing and returning to Jody. There are 7 main ports, Westport and Newport were the lowest for participation last year.
 - ii. Molly will add picture of Jody on website with information on how to complete a survey.
 - i. Bi-laws
 - i. Adrienne moved to approve that each board member hold for 2 years and thereafter until a qualified successor can be elected for a term of 2 years with the option of renewal, and

must be a *Wefish* member in good standing for 1 year before eligible to be on the executive board. Jody 2nd this motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Any additional bi-law changes will be discussed 1 meeting in advance before a vote is held at the next meeting.
- iii. Other suggestions included making past presidents trustees to oversee things, and if it is later decided to cap length of time on Executive board perhaps require a 1 year hiatus before returning.
- j. NOAA stats- Westport 3rd largest port on West Coast. How do we keep getting the word out about commercial fishing? What is our next step? Possibly make signs for those to put in their yards, supported by Fishing dollars. Possibly brochure for legislature?
- k. Grant possibilities:
 - i. Ideas for grants
 - 1. New Fishermen's Memorial? John Shaw is compiling stories on those lost at sea. May need help locating some of the stories that are unknown. Need a subcommittee
 - 2. School trips to hatcheries?
 - 3. Washout facility for boats/fish cleaning stations? PSA may be interested in this opportunity
 - 4. Flags on the way in to Westport?
 - 5. John Show is pursuing a \$1000 Lodging Tax and Advisory Committee grant. To request the promotion of Memorial Day Weekend. Could possibly get reimbursement for advertising, banners, etc. Debut thememorial history of these on memorial.
 - ii. Community Foundation of South Puget Sound
 - 1. Little known opportunity for grants
 - iii. Grays Harbor Community Foundation
 - 1. Deadlines for applications are first business days of January, April, July & October 1 @ 5 p.m.

V. Events:

- a. Blessing of the Fleet (BOF)-hopes for 2015
 - i. Plan to meet with all planners in January 2016 to debrief and discuss event for 2016. Would like to include the Museum, Sea Scouts, Myron's group, Chamber, City of Westport, etc. **Molly will schedule a date and let us know.**
- b. Showcase Grays Harbor:
 - i. Mike Michener, Ambassador for Greater Grays Harbor, was impressed with our presentation and would like to hear more about our non-profit. He requested we complete a profile on *Wefish*. Profile completed and turned in 12/7.

VI. Solicitation Letters/Membership:

- a. For corporate members possibly some sort of sign that their business is supported by fishing dollars and/or a nice picture with *WEfish* logo in the corner.
- b. Discount *Wefish* members to ½ off for anyone who joins after July.
- c. Send out renewals stating they are due in January. Send a reminder at 6 months if member has not renewed by then.

VII. New Business:

- a. Luncheon-Greg Mueller is putting on an all day meeting for anywhere between 30 and 50 people and would like *WEfish* to put together the lunch. Location and date to be announced. *WEfish* can wear shirts, have member ship forms, and flyers. *WEfish* agreed to do this.
- b. Haul-Out/Marina upgrades-
 - i. Greg Mueller is working on securing funding to get a “Haul-Out” in Westport. There may be preventative maintenance funds or grant money available.
 - ii. Also need a restroom facility with showers, etc. Allow paying moorage customers an access card so it is secure
- c. Yearly event?
 - i. Host an annual meeting similar to our Kick Off event with a guest speaker (like Phil Anderson?) to discuss what is coming for our industry in the next 10 years. Discuss the pending retirement of several key leaders in each organization and discuss how the next generation can get involved to continue the work. Inspire people to get involved. Have veteran advocates in panel style with Q&A. Invite ALL associations to bring everyone together. Offer food and wine. Provide pamphlets on fishing, spatial marine planning, and all our way of life is up against. Provide info on how to give feedback to legislature, how to have a voice.

IX. Adjourn: Adrienne moved to adjourn, Jody 2nd.

Next meeting Sunday, January 24th, 3:00 p.m. at Westport Winery