

WEfish

Meeting Minutes March 22, 2015

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. Trisha Woodward called the meeting to order . Attendance: Trisha Woodward, Greg Mueller, Adrienne Jones, Molly Bold, Marci Hollingsworth, Jody Pope
- II. Approval of Minutes: Trisha Woodward made a motion to approve 2/22/15 minutes, Marci Hollingsworth 2nd.
- III. Greg Mueller from WA Troller's Association spoke at the meeting
 - a. Suggested that although *WEfish* is not a political organization, we keep everyone informed of what is going on politically. States that SB 5844/HB 1660 will automatically come up as a bill next year with much stronger backing. Suggested some *WEfish* members testify at the legislature to bring a family/wife/mother face to the issue.
 - b. The Pacific Fisheries Management Council is in the process of setting the salmon season and now is the time for public comment. Please visit <http://www.pcouncil.org/> to make your views known. Also a link on *WEfish* website.
 - c. WA Troller's Association has a paying Executive Director position open. It will be a soft handoff with current position holders assisting in the transition. Entails doing the newsletter, bookkeeping, minutes from meetings, etc. Pays \$1,000 per month plus a performance bonus awarded each year.
 - d. Encouraged *WEfish* to build treasury & do a sign in sheet each mtg.
- IV. Finances
 - a. 2014-a draft was provided, in the process of meeting with an accountant and finalizing 2014 taxes. Final report for 2014 will be presented at next meeting.
 - b. 2015-Have approximately \$4,000 in our account.
 - c. Any donation over \$500 would need the *WEfish* tax id number.
- V. Marine Spatial Planning-info (Greg Mueller & Molly Bold)
 - a. Related to wind energy in the ocean, both windmill and wave energy. This is likely to greatly impact commercial fishing. Energy companies attempting to get grant money to build.

- b. There is a meeting this Thursday March 26th in Ilwaco if anyone can go or hears about it please report back. Meeting in Grays Harbor had very few participants. Molly Bold will send out link for video to *WEfish* board members for viewing.
- c. Molly Bold will try to get information on how to make public comments on this issue. Currently not a lot of publicity on this topic. Important issue for members to learn about.
- d. A member suggested hosting a viewing of the video at the Islander

VI. Open Business

- a. Maritime Museum
 - i. Currently working on their Coast Guard display and free kids education on the weekend
 - ii. Would like to update their commercial fishing display, would like a video of a fishermen/family being interviewed, live footage of boats fishing, etc.
- b. Scholarships
 - i. Laura Roehrich has contacted Westport High School to let them know we would like to do a \$500 scholarship.
- c. Lost Fishermen's Fund
 - i. Raised \$121 at 2014 Seafood Festival. Received permission from Pastor Myron to fundraise for this at BOF.
- d. Logo/Branding
 - i. *WEfish* approached by a group in California regarding use of *WEfish* logo/brand. Gathered feedback, which was presented as group, agreed not to proceed, but will offer to have them order t-shirts, etc. through us as a fundraiser.

VII. Events

- a. Blessing of the Fleet (BOF)-May 24, 2015
 - i. Trisha Woodward, Molly Bold, and Marci Hollingsworth had a meeting today at 2:30 with with Pastor Myron to begin planning for this years event
 - ii. BOF is on Sunday May 24th, 2015/Memorial Day Weekend
 - iii. Greg Mueller is attending the Coastal Coalition meeting 3/23 and will present ideas to see if there is interest from others on putting on a seafood fundraiser just after the BOF. Discussed possibilities of pre-selling some tickets, possibly having a VIP event as a thank you to those who have supported the commercial fishing industry. Need RSVP's for this. Do clam chowder for the public.
- b. Memorial Clean-up (date? 2 weeks before BOF? Early May?)
 - i. Discussed maybe ordering more benches?
 - ii. Put clean-up date in South Beach bulletin.
 - iii. See if neighboring condominium would like to donate.

- iv. Can anyone go look at the current state to take stock at what needs to be done? Painting day scheduled based on weather.
 - c. Sail the Harbor
 - i. Changing this years focus from fishing to industry, not both
 - d. Showcase Grays Harbor in September
 - i. Molly & Adrienne have been proposing they Showcase South Beach this year and if so they would allow Wefish to do a presentation. Audience would be approximately 200 people.
 - ii. If they pick South Beach be thinking of places they could tour or things they could do
 - e. Fun Run for Pirate Days as fundraiser? June 27
 - i. Group agreed this was a good idea to check into. Easy fundraiser, possibly do some sort of theme. Jody agreed to assist Molly Bold in this. Group suggested combination walk/run/bike
 - f. Seafood Festival
- VIII. Solicitation Letters
 - a. Meeting scheduled for March 31st /Tuesday at Molly's house
 - b. Please review and comment on draft individual and business letter Trisha e-mailed out to board members prior to this date so final letter can be printed and ready to be signed and mailed out
 - c. Please bring a list of proposed businesses/individuals including mailing address to send letters to and we will all compare/compile a list. Members possibly follow up with a phone call after letter gets sent out
 - d. Holly Rydman mailed out renewal letters to all current members.
- IX. Adjourn-Trisha moved to adjourn, Marci 2nd.