

## *WEfish*

### *Meeting Minutes 4/17/15*

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, Marci 2nd.
- II. Attendance: Laura Roehrich, Marci Hollingsworth, Molly Bold, Trisha Woodward
- III. Approval of Minutes: Molly moved to approve, Marci 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- IV. Open Business:
  - a. Scholarships:
    - i. Laura Roehrich has contacted Westport High School to let them know *WEfish* plans to offer a \$500 scholarship.
    - ii. Sarah Beese & Laura finalized the *WEfish* scholarship, deadline for applicants is May 15<sup>th</sup>. We will get the essays from applicants & can hold a meeting to review & decide on the recipient. Possibly get a waiver signed by recipient and do a *WEfish* story for website/Facebook?
    - iii. Provide a letter to recipient that check will be made payable directly to school of choice once enrolled.
  - b. Lost Fishermen's Fund:
    - i. Raised \$121 at 2014 Seafood Festival.
    - ii. Received permission from Pastor Myron to fundraise for this at BOF.
    - iii. Molly presented ideas to establish a protocol to include:
      1. Contact next of kin & establish beneficiaries
      2. Set up a donation account at Anchor Bank-all proceeds go to family in full.
      3. Identify needs of family such as arrangement of meals, services (counseling, memorial fees), offer to be spokesperson for the media if family does not want to be, pay bills for the family with a cap.
  - c. Logo/Branding:
    - i. *WEfish* approached by a group in California regarding use of *WEfish* logo/brand. Agreed not to proceed, but will offer to have them order t-shirts, etc. through us as a fundraiser.
    - ii. Molly is proceeding with this. Offering to order the items for those requesting it, but not give control of our logo.

- iii. CA person signed on as a member and may be a good resource. She secured a grant for \$6,000, will she share how?

V. Events:

- a. Memorial Clean-Up: (date? 2 weeks before BOF? Early May?)
  - i. Discussed maybe ordering more benches? Possibly 1 per year? Or more planter boxes which require upkeep? Anchor Bank applying for grant again this year. The dune grass held up well. Any other perennials that will stay year to year? Agreed to get the plants from Westport Winery.
  - ii. Marci is checking with the City of Westport to see when they plan to pressure wash and trim shrubs. Will see if painting is needed after they are done. Schedule clean up once we know when city cleaning, possibly 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May?
  - iii. Put clean-up date in South Beach bulletin.
  - iv. Adrienne-See if neighboring condominium would like to donate.
  - v. The museum is volunteering their group to assist with clean up.
- b. Blessing of the Fleet (BOF):-May 24, 2015/Memorial Day weekend
  - i. Marci will check in with Myron and see if he wants to have another separate planning meeting OR come to the next planning meeting with *WEfish*/Coast Guard Wives.
  - ii. Ask other fishing groups to put event in their newsletter.
  - iii. Print out cards to invite all boats at marina and hand out flyers to all of the businesses. Laura & Molly willing to do.
  - iv. NEXT MEETING: 1<sup>st</sup> week of May to plan for clean up & BOF. Two Coast Guard wives interested in being involved in the planning-all agreed to invite them to next *WEfish* meeting dedicated solely to BOF event planning. Also, please recruit volunteers
  - v. Ask boats to see if they are willing to decorate their boat or make their own wreath to toss? Possibly 1 boat from each fishery to follow the Coast Guard cutter/boat parade?
  - vi. Molly confirmed with Starbucks regarding donation of coffee. Trisha agreed to pick it up.
  - vii. Would like to give out cookies again. Can each member make 1 to 2 dozen cookies to bring?
  - viii. Trisha will contact Beerbower's to see if they will donate flowers again this year for families to throw in memory.
  - ix. Laura will ask Doug Peterson if he may be willing to make some wreaths? Anyone know the requirement for wreath?
- c. Clam chowder fundraiser after BOF:

- i. Need to secure a permit. Approximately 2 weeks notice needed? Can get from County Office in Montesano.
    - ii. Did not hear back from Greg Mueller about his presentation to Coastal Coalition, proceeding with clam chowder for the public. \$5 for a cup of chowder, breadstick and drink. (Bread outlet can offer discount?) Offer hot dogs for kids- Laura is willing to get supplies for this. Some members expressed preference for Ivar's clam chowder, quality is well known. Marci & Laura have food handler's cards. Molly see what the kitchen already has in the way of supplies so we know what we will need? How do we keep food warm once brought outside?
    - iii. Agreed to have a *WEfish* booth at the clam chowder fundraiser to sell sweatshirts, brochures, etc.
- d. Sail the Harbor:
  - i. Changing this years focus from fishing to industry, not both
- e. Showcase Grays Harbor in September:
  - i. They decided to Showcase South Beach this year and would allow *WEfish* to do a presentation and have us on the planning committee. Audience would be approximately 200 people.
  - ii. Trying to see if we could arrange for the group to walk on a few boats to take a tour.
- f. Fun Run for Pirate Days as fundraiser: June 27
  - i. Agreed to proceed on a Fun Run. Call it a Dagger Dash and say first 50 entries receive a t-shirt and an eye patch? That would encourage early registration and we would know exactly what to order in advance.
  - ii. Rosie Litterer approved *WEfish* being under their insurance umbrella. Have participants sign a waiver. Elisa Kumer and Jody Pope have experience in organizing a run. \$15 entry fee
  - iii. Allow for pre-registration on website.
- g. Seafood Festival is 9/5
- h. Life Jacket Loaner Program:
  - i. Unsure of where this was left off. Group agreed to revitalize this project and move forward.
  - ii. Many examples already exist, Laura may be able to have someone do the woodwork for us, metal likely to rust?
  - iii. Decide on good location and place signs at entrance of each pier stating life jackets required and where to obtain.
- i. Grant possibilities:
  - i. Grays Harbor Community Foundation gives out grants 4 times a year. Group is interested in applying for these grants. Ideas for grants included Life Jacket Loaner

Program funding, or new Fisherman's Memorial? Other thoughts?

- ii. Next deadline for an application is first business day of July. Trisha and Molly can work on drafting a grant application.

VI. Solicitation Letters/Membership:

- a. Molly said there has been a response to the letters that were sent out. Molly will ask Adrienne to forward those who signed up or renewed and Trisha will send out a thank you card.
- b. Agreed that those who sign up to be a member should receive a sticker or a magnet in their thank you card.
- c. Need to order more thank you cards, stickers that are smaller to give out more freely at events-not just for members anymore
- d. 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.

IX. Adjourn: Trisha moved to adjourn, Laura 2<sup>nd</sup>.