

WEfish

Meeting Minutes 7/17/15

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, Laura 2nd.
- II. Attendance: Laura Roehrich, Marci Hollingsworth, Molly Bold, Trisha Woodward, Holly Rydman, Jody Pope, Sarah Beese
- III. Approval of Minutes: Laura moved to approve, Molly 2nd.
- IV. Open Business:
 - a. Scholarships:
 - i. Recipient of \$500 *WEfish* scholarship went to Bryce Hongell. We had 2 applicants, likely due to short notice.
 - ii. Agreed to stay with Ocosta for next year before expanding to other districts. Deadline to have scholarship ready is beginning of 2015 school year/September.
 1. Would like to increase essay to 500 words.
 2. Increase amount (\$500 for 2 years, another \$500 for continuing for 2 more years), or give choice \$1,000 at once?
 3. GPA 3.0 or higher
 - iii. Sara agreed to present the scholarship again next year!
 - b. Lost Fishermen's Fund:
 - i. *WEfish* underwrote the BOF/clam chowder feed and all proceeds went to this fund. Approximately \$1000 at BOF/fundraiser.
 - c. Logo/Branding/Sweatshirts:
 - i. KC sport fishing is willing to give *WEfish* members a discount.
 - ii. Any ideas on stores willing to sell our sweatshirts? Sarah will check with Larry at Deep Sea Charters. Marci will check with Englund Marine and the Islander.
 - d. Life Jacket Loaner Program:
 - i. Molly said the Fire Department has funds for this. There is a meeting Monday 7/27 at 10 a.m. Goal is to have this in place by summer 2016.
 - 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.
 - e. 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 in September.

V. Events:

a. Blessing of the Fleet (BOF)-hopes for 2015

i. Very interested in bringing the boat parade back.

ii. Wondering if those involved in the planning (Myron, Coast Guard, Leslie) would be willing to let *WEfish* take the lead in organizing this event in future years? Maybe have a debrief meeting while BOF is fresh in our minds to present our vision and discuss what went well, hopes for 2016, etc.

iii. Group voted unanimously to thank the Westport Maritime Museum for offering their facilities for fundraiser by donating \$250 to the commercial fishing exhibit.

b. Clam chowder fundraiser after BOF:

i. Ivars was a bit thin but bacon and potatoes were added. Wondering if the Islander or other restaurant might donate the chowder next year in exchange for advertising? Hot dogs did not sell as much. The kitchen was not well stocked so check ahead next year to see what is needed.

ii. Union Gospel Mission was grateful for the donation of the leftovers!

iii. Had 115 attendees!! Made approximately \$1000. Group agreed we could charge \$7 next year instead of \$5.

c. Showcase Grays Harbor in September:

i. Step 18th 9:30-11:30: Fishing demonstrations, commercial fishing information, values of fishing families, seafood samples, etc. Audience is 150-200 community leaders and representatives. Maybe boat demo, handouts, put a net out, have actual fishermen attend? Will be on crab dock for 10 minutes or so.

ii. They decided to Showcase South Beach this year and would allow *WEfish* to do a presentation and have us on the planning committee.

iii. Trying to see if we could arrange for the group to walk on a few boats to take a tour.

d. Fun Run for Pirate Days as fundraiser: June 27, 2015

i. Had 50 -55 participants, made \$200. On-line sign ups went up 2 weeks before run, had 9 pre-registrations. Approx 35 adults and 20 kids. Gave t-shirts, eye patch and tattoos. A 51 year old won the race

ii. Received suggestions for next year:

1. Have water stations

2. Change the course to incorporate the beach

3. Show mile makers (could put *WEfish* on them)

4. Have volunteers cheer runners along the course
 5. Balloon swords?
 6. Pick the date well ahead, advertise as dog friendly race. Trisha willing to get posted on running websites
 7. Don't put the year on the t-shirt so leftovers can be used next year?
 8. do a pirate dash for first 100
- e. Seafood Festival is 9/5/15 @ Maritime Museum
- i. Advertising-Do radio spots. Trisha will get in What's Happening Section of Daily World.
 - ii. Crafts-Include a sign that says FREE activities for kids. Put up clotheslines for the fish painting craft to dry-include a positive message about commercial fishing on the paper. Do an oyster shell painting?
 - iii. Public education-
 1. Set up booth that allows for more of a tour to invite people into our booth?
 2. Include types of fishing stats and value of landings on the Harbor.
 3. Replicate the NOAH display with stats
 4. Diagrams of boats/crab pots
 5. Survival suites and life rafts on display? Allow people to be able to touch the gear, rope toss, etc. Create a competition for farthest/fastest? See if they will let us have an end booth that will allow us space on the grass to the these activities? Molly checking on this.
 - iv. Volunteers-sign up in shifts to take turns help with the crafts, they are a lot of work. Provide information ahead of time for volunteers about the different types of fishing so we can all answer questions from the public.
- f. Coast Guard appreciation October 4th
- g. Beach clean up Saturday September 19th
- i. Need two volunteers to serve hot dogs
- VI. Solicitation Letters/Membership:
- a. Molly said there has been a response to the solicitation letters that were sent out. Thank you cards sent out to all 2014 and 2015 members/renewals with *WEfish* sticker.
 - b. 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: Laura moved to adjourn, Trisha 2nd.

Next meeting Friday 8/21 6:00 p.m. Location to be announced.