

CCANH Board of Directors Minutes of October 7, 2009

Location: Zampa's Restaurant, Epping, NH

Present: J. Barnum, M. Kalter, B. Bickford, P. Bickford, M. Watosky, M. Reeve, T. Browning, D. Beattie, R. White, G. Thomas, B. Bode, M. Reeve, D. Swanson, P. Whelan, M. McCarthy
Guest: J. Merkle

Meeting was called to order by J. Barnum @ 1831H

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 9, 2009 were reviewed for approval and amendment made on page three to correct an incorrect name. A motion was made and seconded to approve as amended (T. Browning, P. Whelan) and passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report

M. Reeve presented the treasurer report which showed a slightly lower projected end of the year cash balance than last year, but was consistent with the larger conservation expenditure regarding dam removal. A motion to approve the treasurer report was made and seconded (M. Kalter, D. Swanson) and passed unanimously.

GOVERNMENT AND NGO UPDATES

ASMFC- R. White noted upcoming hearings regarding Striped Bass, shad and lobster. He noted that N. Carolina had made a motion for an amendment to allow a 50% quota harvest rollover of a year for states which did not catch their quota for the preceding year. This request was based on reduced N. Carolina harvest supposedly due to fish staying further offshore in the EEZ, and therefore not harvestable. Allowing this would raise the issue of stock "ownership" or state's entitlement to their assigned harvest quota outside of the allotted time for that harvest. Questions as to whether this is due to decreased stock were not acceptable as the Striped Bass Technical Committee had already determined that this was not an issue and taken that argument off the table as a valid argument. R. White therefore stated that the argument had to be made from an ethical or value standpoint. Of note, the new Striped Bass stock assessment is due the day after the hearings. D. Swanson stated that CCA NH should oppose this proposed amendment and presented a draft letter for the board's review which made the argument not as a conservation issue but a "policy of ownership" issue. Clearly the recreational harvests in ME and NH have plummeted over the past several years, but the board members felt by and large that an entitlement to a harvest quota did not exist for us or any other group. The population of Atlantic Striped Bass was a shared resource and not owned by any one state or group of anglers, commercial or recreational. P. Bickford volunteered to edit the letter and at

the request of the Chair, put together a bullet list of CCA NH position statements which could be used by members to help them with testimony at the upcoming public hearing tomorrow. A motion to accept and send the letter opposing the amendment was made and seconded (D. Swanson, M. Watosky) and passed unanimously.

R. White also noted that the shad recommendations involved monitoring of river herring and regulation to promulgate conservation, were already being done by NH, and that CCA NH should support the recommendations. He did note that there will likely be a 50% reduction in the herring quota for the year and this will significantly negatively impact the lobster industry.

NEFMC- D. Swanson noted upcoming meetings of the Herring and Ground fish advisory Committees which will address accountability measures for these fisheries.

ACMF- No report.

NH F&G- M. Kalter reported that he is still currently in a holdover status and that to the best of his knowledge no nominations have been placed for the Coastal Commissioner or Strafford County Commissioner seats. He also announced that the Belknap County Commissioner has sent in a letter of resignation, making that seat now open as well.

PREP- M. Kalter noted that he attended the PREP Management Committee meeting on September 30. Of note the nitrogen loading model for Great Bay was discussed, with a conservative estimate of 105,000 tons of nitrogen requiring removal annually to meet the nitrogen level standards that have been set. Clearly, most of this nitrogen is from non-point sources including atmospheric, to the tune of about 65%. Estimated costs for removal of a pound of nitrogen is about \$100 for a modern wastewater treatment facility and as high as \$800 for various non-point sources. The approach will likely be to go after “the low hanging fruit” for which there is current accepted technology and probable lower cost (i.e. wastewater) first. Discussion on developing technologies for nitrogen sequestration technologies were also discussed at the meeting, as were Comprehensive Management Plan goals for improving land management to reduce nitrogen loading in the watershed.

OLD BUSINESS

Mission/Vision Results- The secretary presented the summary of the comments received by email after the last BOD meeting. While no overwhelming consensus was observed, leadership in policy/legislation and youth education were among the most frequently mentioned, but still by less than half of the BOD members responding. M. Kalter mentioned that there were about 12 separate items mentioned to varying degrees after summarizing and grouping the comments. After discussing the results with the President, it was felt that an attempt to prioritize the various items by the BOD present at the meeting would be worthwhile and a 1-12

rating questionnaire was presented. R. White felt that the results indicated that there was no consensus of issues that keep the BOD members at the table and that it is strength in diversity that is the strength of CCA NH. Several other BOD members agreed with this assessment. Some discussion continued, but the President felt that due to the disagreement among the group on the design and use of the questionnaire, that it be tabled and recommendations on how to precede with it be emailed or otherwise communicated to the secretary.

KTP Septemberfest- J. Barnum reviewed the event, stating that there was low interest from the crowd attending as most were from out of the area vacationing. He felt that attending this event as an outreach event should not be pursued next year. He also noted that the Paddle Sports Show may not happen next year.

Blue Ocean Society Coastal Cleanup- J. Barnum reported that the event went well with over 500 lbs of trash collected mostly from the Odiorne Point to Wallis Sands Beach area. Fort Stark had little trash collected, which was a significant improvement over last year. M. Watosky led the effort in the Ft. Stark area.

Winnicut Dam Removal Dedication Ceremony- J. Barnum noted that a dedication ceremony marking the successful removal of the Winnicut Dam will be held on October 15th, and that he has been asked to speak at the event. A BOD member also made note that this appeared in a first page article appearing in the Union Leader recently. The Winnicut River is now running freely for the first time is several hundred years.

Membership Administrative Assistant- Work continues with Karla Lizotte with some progress being made.

NEW BUSINESS

Sportsman Outreach Shows- D. Swanson appraised the group about the upcoming Rockingham Fishing and Hunting Expo being held on January 9-10, 2010. Booth cost is \$65.00. A motion was made and seconded to approve funds to purchase booth space for CCA NH (D. Swanson, M. Reeve) and passed. Help in manning the booth will be arranged with volunteers requested. D. Swanson also noted the Pelham Fly Fishing Show being held on March 6-7, 2010, at which CCA NH had a booth last year. Booth price was \$100.00. A motion was made and seconded to approve \$100.00 for the purchase of booth space for CCA NH at the Pelham Fly Fishing Show (D. Swanson, M. Reeve) and passed on vote.

Nominating Committee- J. Barnum requested volunteers to form the nominating committee for the upcoming annual election of officers. The committee members will be G. Thompson, B.

Bickford, and P. Bickford. The committee is asked to have a recommended slate of officers ready for the next BOD meeting in November.

Tuna Mania Committee- J. Barnum called for the formation of this coming year's Tuna Mania Committee. The date set for TM will be February 6, 2010. B. Bickford will Chair the Committee with T. Browning as Co-Chair. R. White, D. Beattie and P. Whelan offered to help the committee with their experience in setting up the event.

Banquet Committee- The 2010 Annual Banquet will be held on March 27, 2010. P. Bickford will Co-Chair this committee with J. Barnum. M. Watosky and D. Beattie will also sit on the committee.

Oyster Shell Recycling- J. Barnum reported that Orvis has promised CCA NH \$10,000 for the proposed oyster shell recycling project grant. This is being promised prior to the Orvis budget meeting at which final grants will be determined. CCA NH had requested a \$30,000 grant for the project. Jeff also made note that a \$25,000 NEP/NOAA preproposal for grant was submitted last week as well for this purpose. J. Barnum then named a committee to start working on the details to move forward on the oyster recycling program utilizing the Orvis funds promised so far. Those committee members will be M. McCarthy, P. Bickford, B. Bickford, M. Watosky, D. Beattie, G. Thompson, and M. Kalter. The Oyster Shell Recycling Program Committee will meet on Monday evening October 26 at M. Kalter's home beginning at 7PM.

UNH Large Pelagics Research Center Funding- There are some issues that have been encountered with the Federal funding received for Molly Lutcavage's programs. J. Barnum asked for BOD consensus approval to try to help resolve this issue through discussion with NOAA officials and was granted it.

J. Barnum announced that the next BOD meeting would be held on November 11, 2009 at this location. He then accepted a motion to adjourn (G. Thompson, R. White). Meeting adjourned at 2049H.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitch Kalter, Secretary CCA NH

Approved November 11, 2009