

CCANH Board of Directors Minutes of November 11, 2009

Location: Zampa's Restaurant, Epping, NH

Present: J. Barnum, M. Kalter, P. Bickford, M. Watosky, M. Reeve, T. Browning, D. Beattie, G. Thompson, M. Reeve, D. Swanson, M. McCarthy, C. Stallkamp, D. Lovett, Jr.,

Guest: Esther Goethel

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

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of October 7, 2009 were reviewed and motion made to approve as written and seconded (J. Barnum, M. Watosky). Motion passed.

Treasurer Report

M. Reeve delivered the treasurer report which estimated cash reserves at year end comparable to the previous year. Note was also made of the restricted funds dedicated to the oyster restoration project. A motion to approve the report was made and seconded (M. Kalter, C. Stallkamp) and passed unanimously.

GOVERNMENTAL AND NGO UPDATES

PREP- J. Barnum, P. Bickford and M. Reeves attending the Estuaries Conference in October, held in Somersworth. There was general consensus among those that attended that the meeting was well organized and run, full of eye opening information, some of which was worrisome. Copies of the 2009 State of the Estuary Report were furnished for the board members who did not already have one and some of the major finding in the report reviewed by P. Bickford. M. Kalter, CCANH representative on PREP, noted that work is almost complete on the 10 year revision of the Comprehensive Management Plan, with final approval expected at the March 2011 meeting. The next PREP Management Committee meeting will be in December.

ASMFC- G. Thompson who attended the resent meeting in RI recapped the events surrounding the defeat of the proposed striper quota rollover amendment. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 8-6, and this issue will likely reappear at future meetings. He felt that CCA's activism, especially from the ME and NH membership, had a significant effect on the final vote outcome on this issue. M. Watosky and D. Swanson reported on the temporarily averted change in the herring quota and proposed closure based on NEFMC status quo vote. D. Swanson cautioned that the final outcome is not known and that cuts are likely in the 1A herring fishery in the near future.

NEFMC- D. Swanson reported that the herring committee voted to stay status quo, even though it is clear cuts are going to be required in this fishery. An updated report from the Science Committee is expected shortly, and would have been helpful had it been available at the meetings.

ACMF- No report.

NH F&G- M. Kalter noted that he is technically still on the Commission as a holdover, and is not sure how much longer this will continue. In addition to his seat, there are currently two other seats, Coastal and Belknap County vacant. The candidate recommended to the Governor's office by ACMF for Coastal Commissioner has withdrawn his name for further consideration, as reported by J. Barnum. A very busy legislative session is anticipated based on some of the LSRs put forward.

CCA National Meeting- D. Swanson reported that Pat Murray was voted in as the new CCA President after the resignation of Dave Cummins. The board voted no salary increases and to cut bonuses by 25-35% this year. He also noted discussions regarding the possible increase of CCA dues to \$30.00, which would be the first dues increase in CCA history. Other CCA initiatives are to encourage the Feds to develop a real time recreational angler data collection system, and they voted to support the prohibition of taking pre-spawn menhaden from Chesapeake Bay Virginia waters.

OLD BUSINESS

Tuna Mania Committee Report- T. Browning reported that 2 of 3 major speakers have been confirmed. Consensus regarding the conservation orientation is still pending.

Banquet Committee- J. Barnum reported that he had investigated the Great Bay Gallery in Somersworth when there for the Estuaries Conference. He noted that the price per person would be \$15 less than the Galley Hatch, which could allow a decrease in ticket price. The issue of allowing the purchase of a "membership only" ticket for the event was discussed, as a potential lower priced ticket for those not wishing to partake of the dinner. J. Barnum expressed some concern regarding supplying numbers to the caterer if this was allowed. The committee would evaluate this possibility further. An additional suggestion to evaluate Red Hook Brewery as another possible venue change was made. There was general board consensus that further investigation in other possible locations for the banquet was warranted and should be pursued by the banquet committee.

Orvis Oyster Restoration Project- J. Barnum reported on the first meeting of the Oyster Restoration committee held on October 26th. He noted that there are 9 members of that

committee and that it would conduct business the same as the CCA bylaws requiring a 33% attendance for quorum. The committee would approve expenditures based on that vote. Nothing more has been heard from Orvis regarding additional grant money, so the committee will proceed with its plans based on the \$10,000 grant received. The committee decided that the primary focus would be shell recycling and that due to the limited budget; seeding cages would be tabled from consideration at this time. Major issues discussed at the meeting was the need for an intermediary drop off temporary storage facility in the Greenland, Stratham area, strategic mapping of potential restaurants to maximize efficiency and minimize cost, and a program of restaurant recognition and public outreach regarding the effort. The committee will meet again following the board meeting this evening.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee/Election of Officers- G. Thompson requested any nominations from the board prior to giving the nominating committee's recommended slate of officers. None were forthcoming. The nominating committee recommended the following slate of officers:

President- J. Barnum
V. President- D. Swanson
Treasurer- M. Reeve
Secretary- G. Thompson

A motion was made and seconded to accept this slate of officers by majority vote (G. Thompson, M. Watosky) and the motion passed unanimously. The officers' terms will begin next month.

Taylor River Dam- CCA NH was invited to attend a meeting regarding the review of the recent feasibility study on the Taylor River Dam, with J. Barnum and M. Kalter attending. The meeting was held at the Hampton Falls town hall last evening, and was heavily attended by residents abutting the Taylor River Pond impoundment created by the dam which was completed in 1950. NH DOT owns the dam, which is in need of major renovation or removal as a combined project to address issues with the Route 95 bridge adjacent to it. Three options were examined in the feasibility study A) no action which is an option required by law, but not a viable one; B) Redesign and rebuild the bridge, dam and fish ladder; C) Rebuild bridge without dam returning river to free flowing tidal river in this area. It was apparent that the pond abutters were in favor of option B. Option B did not address the poor water quality of the pond (eutrophic with poor DO), and would allow a greater amount of potentially toxic sediments (pesticides) to remain in the pond after completion of the project, which in a catastrophic event could threaten the clam flats downstream. Option C would also require construction of water

cisterns as a water supply for fire fighting, as the pond currently acts as that water supply. According to NH DES, adequate dredging of toxic sediments would be performed in the option C plan to make dam removal safe for the clam flats downstream, however several people openly questioned that at the meeting. Tonight's guest Ellen Goethel, CCANH's 2009 Conservationist of the Year, noted that she too had reservations about this aspect of dam removal, as much expense and effort has gone into restoring the clam flats in that area downstream of the dam. Otherwise she and the conservation community would be in favor of dam removal. J. Barnum would draft a position letter based on this discussion and would have it reviewed by the board prior to sending it in. There was consensus on this suggested action.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dockside Striper Tournament- CCA ME has approached CCA NH regarding participation with their 4th annual striper tournament held at York Harbor. York Hospital had been a beneficiary of half the proceeds, but has declined to participate this year. The event is held during the last week in June. CCA NH is being asked if they wish to participate by supplying some manpower to help run the event for a share of the proceeds. It was felt that this proposal would require further discussion at a later meeting but was worth looking into.

Circle Hook Initiative- J. Barnum posed the question on continuing the Circle Hook effort again this year if he could get more hooks donated from Gamakatsu. There was general consensus in the affirmative.

2010 Conservationist of the Year- Nomination is needed no later than January. J. Barnum encouraged BOD members to make recommendations for nomination.

Draft of 2010 Business Plan- J. Barnum noted that the 2010 Business Plan is needed by CCA National shortly. He will distribute a draft plan and the current plan for BOD review and comment shortly.

Portsmouth Scrap Piles- J. Barnum noted that last month's guest, J. Merkle, is doing some research regarding possible toxic contaminants leeching from the Portsmouth scrap piles into the Piscataqua River. He will be conferring with the CLF and report back to us at a later meeting.

Meeting Adjourned @ 2048H

Respectfully Submitted,
Mitch Kalter, CCA NH Secretary
Approved December 10, 2009

