

Depoe Bay Near-Shore Action Team
Regular Meeting (re-scheduled date)
Thursday, November 29, 2007 – 6:00 pm
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard, R. Davilla (arrived 7:00 pm), M. Fitzpatrick, J. O'Brien, L. Robison,
G. Snyder, V. Sovern

ABSENT: R. Davilla, B. Fasciano, M. Grover

STAFF: City Recorder P. Murray

Chairman Goddard called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:00 pm.

Approve Minutes: October 18, 2007 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Sovern moved to approve the minutes as written. Fitzpatrick seconded the motion.

Goddard said it was moved and seconded and called for discussion. There was none.

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: Fitzpatrick, Goddard, O'Brien, Robison, Snyder, Sovern

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Skippers/Interested Public Meeting for MPA Site Discussion O'Brien reviewed a draft letter inviting local boat owners/operators to a public meeting to provide input on proposed sites for a marine reserve nomination (copy attached to the original of these minutes). It was suggested to mail the letter to all Depoe Bay harbor moorage holders, post notices and publish notices in Lincoln City, Newport, Salem and Portland newspapers. Discussion included the following: 1) the importance of obtaining public input on NSAT proposed site from Depoe Bay and Newport fisheries, 2) holding a meeting in Newport after the meeting in Depoe Bay, 3) others affected by the establishment of marine reserves, 4) including the FINE group at one or both meetings, 5) a potential meeting place in Newport could be Englund Marine. There were no changes to the draft letter except to revise the listed invitees to all moorage holders and to include both meeting dates and locations.

There was a suggestion to schedule the Depoe Bay and Newport meetings a week apart, followed by a town hall style meeting a couple weeks later. It was noted that the next FINE meeting is scheduled for January 15th. The following schedule was agreed to: Depoe Bay meeting on Thursday January 10th at 7:00 pm, Newport meeting on Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 pm, and the town hall style meeting on Tuesday January 29th at 7:00 pm. The Depoe Bay meetings will be held at the community hall. Sovern volunteered to work on a flyer for distribution.

The draft proposed MPA site (copy attached to the original of these minutes) was reviewed. It was suggested to list the points of criteria that the proposed site meets. The proposed site is easily observed from many points on land and seaward, it includes diverse habitat (birds, fish, invertebrates), the entire water column is involved, rock formations, encompasses part of Oregon islands refuge system (Gull Rock, Otter Rock, Whaleback Rock), species found in the area include rockfish, dungeness crab, sea urchins, seabass, salmon, whales, harbor porpoise, dolphins, sea lions, otters, sea cucumber, seagulls and other birds (need to identify).

It was agreed to list the criteria succinctly for hand out material at the meetings. Sovern offered to obtain current information from OPAC and work on a draft. Fitzpatrick offered to draft after receiving updated criteria from OPAC, it was agreed to review the draft handout at the December meeting.

Reports from Work Groups and Special Committees Sovern reported work continues on DVD editing and requested this item be on the December meeting agenda. O'Brien reported there is no new information on funding of the socio-economic study. Goddard noted the impetus of the study was to have it ready for the Western Groundfish Conference in February, there is no time to complete the study before the conference. Fitzpatrick reported he'd attended a Wave Energy Conference where he learned a study of electromagnetic affects is being conducted in the UK and he'll share additional information as he receives it; also FINE met and there was much discussion on wave energy, buoy placement, FERC permitting process, MPAs, with the focus being wave energy. FINE is working on a document which will provide their stance on wave energy parks.

NEW BUSINESS

Shoreward Boundary of MPA It was agreed the recommendation will be to high water mark, but it was acknowledged that NSAT does not have the final say.

Tentative Approval of Site by Lat/Long Way Points on Chart

Discussed earlier in meeting.

Member and Public Comments Snyder said he has been working on the wave energy buoy project and he plans to invite persons involved to a NSAT meeting. This was tentatively scheduled for the February meeting. Fitzpatrick reported the governor wants to keep wave energy and MPAs separate. However, he feels there will be overlapping and wishes both matters were viewed on a whole opposed to segmented. Sovern would like to issue press releases on NSAT activities. Goddard asked if anyone attended the Heceta Head Conference. Nancy Fitzpatrick reported that she attended and gave a brief overview, noting that the coastal caucus supports marine mapping (copy of conference summary attached to the original of these minutes). Goddard referred to a Register Guard guest viewpoint article by Robin Hartmann, OPAC member (copy attached to the original of these minutes), asking if NSAT wants to respond. It was agreed to not issue a response. Goddard suggested careful review and notation of issues presented by Hartmann.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Loren Goddard, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder