

Depoe Bay Near Shore Action Team
Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 11, 2008 6:00 PM
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Rick Davilla, Nancy Fitzpatrick, Loren Goddard, Roy Hageman, John O'Brien,
Lars Robison, Grant Snyder (arrived 6:03 pm, departed 7:15 pm)

Advisory Council: Jack Brown, Fred Robison

ABSENT: Mike Fitzpatrick, Morris Grover

STAFF: Pery Murray, City Recorder

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

Approval of August 21, 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: N. Fitzpatrick moved to approve the meeting minutes as written. O'Brien seconded.

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: N. Fitzpatrick, L. Goddard, R. Hageman, J. O'Brien, L. Robison

ABSTAIN: R. Davilla

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Marine Reserve Proposal

A draft proposal form date stamped Sep 11, 2008 (copy attached to the original of these minutes) was reviewed with the following comments noted:

Page 1, Item 1.: it was agreed to delete the nautical mile distance from Yaquina Head if the information is not available by submission deadline.

Page 1, Item 2.: added wording is in italics (red).

Page 2, Item 4.: added wording is in italics (red).

Page 3, Item 5.: added wording is in italics (red).

Page 4, Item 5.: validation from the Hatfield Marine Science Center will be obtained.

Page 6, Item 8 and 10.: minor wording changes were discussed and agreed to (better v. more efficient and improvements v. innovation), added wording is in italics (red).

Page 7, Item 11 and 13.: typos were corrected in these sections, it was agreed to leave in the word "boundary" for clarification.

Cristen Don, ODFW, said she has habitat maps for review. Goddard, noting there are no further revisions to the proposal, said there is an audience member who wishes to speak on the issue. Jerome Grant introduced himself as a resident and urchin diver in Depoe Bay since 1989, asking if the north end of the boundary at Gull Rock includes the wash rock. When it was clarified that it does not, Mr. Grant stated that there would be less of an impact on the urchin fishery than he'd thought. He said urchin diver log books from 2000 - 2005 show that 28% of sea urchin harvest on this part of the coast is from the Otter Rock area. It appears the proposed boundary splits the dive area, leaving an estimated reduction of 14% to the fishery. He apologized for not coming forward earlier with his concerns, and provided information on urchin fishery. He noted that in the mid-1990's urchin divers lost prime diving areas which remain closed today (Gregory Point/Sunset Bay-Charleston, Pirates Cove-Depoe Bay, and an area near Brookings). He requested the northern boundary line be moved to the south end of Gull Rock. Discussion ensued including possible mitigation efforts by divers (new dive areas, more intense harvesting effort vs. best and fastest), moving the boundary to the south end of Gull Rock could reduce the estimated impact from 14% to 5%. It was noted that periodic reviews are included in the marine reserve establishment criteria and a reserve may be discontinued. Marine Protected Areas (MPA) allow

for outreach meetings to present boundary changes, it was agreed to not make changes for this reason at the last meeting and it was decided to be consistent. Jack Brown suggested that Grant bring his information to OPAC as they review proposals. Ed Bowles, ODFW, said options for expanding the boundary may occur, any reduction would negatively affect scientific benefits, there will be an opportunity to look at socio-economic impacts to the communities with each community defining “significant”, finding balance between environment and economics. He cautioned that making changes now could undermine the ability to be a pilot project, boundary changes can be addressed in the first year of pilot projects including creating a MPA with limited extraction.

MOTION: O’Brien moved to submit the proposal for the Otter Rock Marine Reserve (with revisions previously discussed in review) to the City Council at the September 16, 2008 regular council meeting. N. Fitzpatrick seconded.

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

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: Davilla, N. Fitzpatrick, Goddard, Hageman, O’Brien, L. Robison

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Lincoln County and Others

Goddard said there will be a meeting with County Counsel Wayne Belmont next week for continued work on the draft MOU.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outreach Meeting with ODFW/Sea Grant

Susan Allen, Director/Our Ocean, said Our Ocean is providing technical support for persons preparing marine reserve proposal submittals to OPAC. She requested NSAT review what they are working on, they are looking for comments. Goddard asked if Our Ocean would support NSAT’s proposal. She responded that dialogue is possible. Allen said they plan to finalize their proposal by September 22nd. Concerns were expressed over lack of time for review and comment, and possible misrepresentation of any participation as support. Ed Bowles reminded everyone of the upcoming workshop meetings on the 15th and 18th. Goddard, O’Brien and Hageman plan to attend on the 18th.

Member and Public Comments

N. Fitzpatrick reported on the open access fishing issue brought forward by M. Fitzpatrick at the last meeting, requesting NSAT consideration of submitting a letter. If the matter is not decided this week there will be a PSFMC meeting in March, at which time NSAT could provide comment. She thanked O’Brien and Hageman for their work on the proposal. Hageman voiced concern over interests of members and others possibly overshadowing NSAT goals. Fred Robison said the proposal is good, it is unfortunate that Jerome Grant did not provide input earlier in the process. Jack Brown thanked Ed Bowles and Cristen Don for their assistance. Ed Bowles said the working group in Port Orford is also developing a MOU, and he encourages informing legislators about the pilot program. Jim Carlson, Our Ocean, offered his assistance on environmental and conservation matters, leaving his business card for contact. O’Brien is grateful to ODFW for the assistance provided in preparation of the proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Loren Goddard, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder