

Shrimp Task Force Meeting
Terrebonne Council Room
Wednesday, February 3, 2016, 10:00am

Meeting called to order at 10:05am

Allison West called roll:

Voting Members Present:

Alan Gibson
Andrew Blanchard
George Barisich
Clint Guidry
Lance Nacio
Acy Cooper

Voting Members Absent:

Lance Authement
Eric Hansen

Non-voting Members Present:

Chad Hebert
Mark Schexnayder
Benjy Rayburn

Non-voting Members Absent:

Nicholas Cole
Dr. Jack Isaacs
Lance Broussard

Motion to accept the minutes from the December 9, 2015 meeting by Andrew Blanchard, 2nd by George Barisich. Motion Carries

Added Slow Fish International Fish Summit to the agenda under 'New Business'

Motion to adopt the agenda as amended by Andy Blanchard, 2nd by Lance Nacio

The amendment of the February 3 agenda to add item 'C. Slow Fish International Summit' was later rescinded in order to maintain compliance with open meetings law. Open meetings law requires both a unanimous vote and the opportunity for public comment when an agenda is modified with less than 24-hours notice to the public

Since neither of the required conditions was met, it was the general position of the committee to rescind the amendment and suspend the agenda item until accommodations could be made for both a vote and public comment

Shrimp Task Force FY2016 Fund Balance as of 1/27/16- 374,555

Motion to accept the financial report by Andy Blanchard, 2nd by Lance Nacio

Jeff Marx presented the TF with the TED Notice of Intent; the notice was accepted and is currently in the comment period, written comment period ends April 1, 2016

Patrick Banks presented the Task Force with an update on shrimp enforcement and penalties and the proposed legislative changes: vessel-monitoring systems

Clint Guidry stated that the TF would meet again prior to the legislative pre-file deadline, which is March 4, for further discussion on this item

Craig Gothreaux addressed the TF with an update on near-shore artificial reefs.

Maps were presented to the task force that displayed planning areas that are being looked into to establish more artificial reefs in near-shore waters

Damon Morris presented the TF with the Audubon Gulf and Marine Stewardship Council shrimp pre-assessments

The next stage in this process would involve stakeholders throughout the fishery coming together to create a 'Fishery Improvement Plan' or 'Marine Advancement Plan'

Damon Morris stated that he would provide the TF with the definition of 'sustainability' as determined by statute by the next STF meeting

Myron Fischer presented on federal permits and Amendment 17A and 17B

There are currently 367 active federal permits, and 31 additional permits that are expired and in the 12 month grace period

Shrimp Fishing in Federal Waters:

Shrimp Amendment 17A (voted on and approved) Extension of the moratorium on federal permits, the Gulf Fishery Council settled on a 10-year extension of the moratorium

Shrimp Amendment 17B- set a cap on the amount of permits, and create a pool for expired permits, and transit provisions

Amendment 17B is not scheduled for final action until August or October 2016, there will be a Gulf Council meeting in August in New Orleans that will allow for personal testimony on these items before a final decision is made

Kim Chauvin announced that the Shrimp Advisory Board meeting would be on March 3, 2016 in Tampa

Gary Granata, chair of Slow Food New Orleans, announced that he would be hosting the first Slow Fish event on March 10-13 at the old U.S. Mint in Violet, LA

Lance Nacio made a motion to provide \$3000 funding for the Slow Fish Festival, 2nd by Acy Cooper (Individual Band Sponsorship), motion carries

Since the amendment to add 'The Slow Fish Festival' to the agenda was rescinded until further action could be taken, the motion for sponsorship regarding this agenda item is therefore annulled

Drue Winters that she would check into the law associated with the TF sponsoring an event that serves alcohol and the liability associated

Karen Profita from the Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board reminded the TF that it is time to ask for funding again and she plans to bring a formal request to the next meeting.

Upcoming events:

- March 29 there is reserved space in the State Capitol rotunda where seafood samples will be served to legislators
- May 21-24 will be the National Restaurant Association show in Chicago.

Helen Olmy from Nicholls State University is conducting two research projects funded by LA Sea Grant and NOAA on Blue Crabs. Tagging 10,000- 11,000 female blue crabs throughout Louisiana and the Gulf; asked that the TF spread the word to the industry and report tag findings.

The next Shrimp Task Force meeting was set for February 17 for 10:00am in New Orleans, **meeting location was later changed to Houma in the Terrebonne Parish Council Room due to availability**

Motion to adjourn by Andy Gibson, 2nd by Lance Nacio. Motion carries

Meeting adjourned at 12:47pm

