

Maine Commercial
Fishing Safety Council

Janine Drouin, Chair

Parker Poole, Vice Chair

Ann Backus, Secretary

Members:

Kris Boehmer

John Drouin

Curtis Haycock

Marc McCole

John McMillan

Mark Murry, ex officio

Jeff Nichols, ex officio

Commercial Fishing Safety Council

Minutes of the Special Meeting, Friday, March 3, 2023

Rockland, ME

Present: Ann Backus, Kris Boehmer, Janine Drouin, John Drouin, Mark Murry, Jeff Nichols, Parker Poole

Absent: John McMillan, Marc McCole, Curtis Haycock

NOTE: This in-person special meeting was held in order to vote on the remote meeting policy, the minutes of recent meetings, and the proposed slate of officers.

I. Welcome – Janine Drouin, CFSC Chairman

II. DMR CFSC Remote Meeting Policy

Jeff Nichols (DMR) presented the DMR Remote Meeting Policy. Kris moved and Ann seconded that we accept the policy. The motion carried; the Remote Meeting Policy was accepted.

III. Presentation of the minutes of June 16, 2022, September 15, 2022 and January 19, 2023.

Janine presented the minutes of these three meetings as a group for acceptance as we had previously reviewed and voted to accept them during remote meetings. After motions to accept all three meeting minutes, they were unanimously accepted.

IV. Presentation of the Slate of Officers. Kris Boehmer, member of the nominating committee, presented the slate of officers as followed: Janine Drouin to continue as Chairman, Parker Poole, to replace Curtis Haycock as Vice Chair, and Ann Backus to continue as Secretary. After motions to accept the slate as read, the members voted unanimously to accept the slate of officers for 2023.

V. Discussion of CFSC Initiatives

- a. Scheduling in-person and remote meetings: After discussing how to schedule meetings and acknowledging that the Commissioner prefers in-person meetings, the members decided to hold at least one in-person quarterly meeting per year, and that that meeting would be the March meeting because it could be held in conjunction with the Fishermen’s Forum and easily include the public and participation from fishermen. (We would need to reserve a room at the Samoset well in advance.)
- b. CFSC membership: Peter Gasperini has stepped down from the Council, leaving the position of “commercial license-holder- diver” vacant. We also discussed the by-law that stipulated that a member who has missed three consecutive meetings without notifying the chair, can be asked to relinquish his/her position on the CFSC. Mark Murray offered to discuss attendance with several members of the Council who have not been attending.

- c. Initiatives: Following up on the Near-Miss survey: We discussed developing First Aid and Damage Control Kits as part of the resources we can offer to fishermen. Ann pointed out that the nurses doing health screening at the forum had a First Aid Kit raffle going on and we could demonstrate a First Aid Kit at the Fishermens Forum in 2024. It was suggested that the First Aid Kit include “QuikClot Gauze” or a similar product. Parker reported that he has a damage control kit list from a fisherman and that this list could become part of the resources we provide on a website and/or at the Fishermen’s Forum. Other issues to follow-up on include mental health (Maine Coastal Fisheries Association- Michele Coombs) and ergonomics.
- d. Narcan™: Parker mentioned attending a training provided by Fishing Partnership Support Services which included how to administer Narcan. CFSC members considered what our role should be in promoting having Narcan on board. We discussed the “Good Samaritan” approach might help encourage captains/owners to carry Narcan.
- e. Ropeless Fishing: we briefly discussed this topic. It needs a fuller discussion regarding safety.

VI. Other Business

- a. Fishing Research: Janine mentioned Torah Johnson’s research and challenges, and that we should read Dr. Johnson’s article. [Note: Dr. Johnson and her research team were scheduled for a Saturday session at the Forum.]
- b. Exhaust space: Members mentioned a new warning notice from the USCG about exhaust space and fire prevention.
- c. Recreational Boating Regulations: The new regulations due to become operational in January 2024 were discussed. This regulation will not apply to commercial fishermen.

VII. Next meetings

- a. Quarterly meeting: March 15, 2023 remote via Teams: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- b. Monthly workshop meetings: Thursdays Remote via Teams - April 20, 2023 and May 18, 2023 from 7:00- 8:00 pm.

VIII. Adjournment 1:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Backus

March 13, 2023