

**Minutes of the 2001 Marine Fisheries Section Business Meeting
Phoenix, Arizona
20 August 2001**

Prepared by Debra Murie, Secretary/Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by MFS President, Anne Richards, at 5:37 p.m.

I. Introductions

Everyone present introduced him/herself along with his/her affiliation. There were 25-30 people in attendance throughout the meeting.

II. President's Report

II. A. AFS Governing Board Meeting

In the absence of Anne Richards, Mary Fabrizio presented the MFS annual report to the AFS Governing Board. Mary reported back that the Executive Director, Gus Rassam, was assuring in stating that the AFS has achieved some financial stability. Vice-President Fred Harris also spoke about attracting and retaining MFS members.

II.B.1. Marine Stocks at Risk

Jack Musik commented that this particular article has resulted in good public relations for the society, especially since NPR and the newspapers featured it. Daniel Pauly has incorporated it into FishBase, which gets over 1million hits a month!

II.B.2. Oceans Act of 2000

MFS's nominee to the Commission was Andy Rosenberg, and Andy was successfully appointed to the Commission. The AFS parent society would like the MFS to be involved in the process.

II.B.3. Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization

The MFS was requested to provide some names of people that would be interested in participating on a white paper on issues in the re-authorization that need to be addressed. Steve Berkeley, Jack Musik, Dave Allison, and John Hoenig volunteered to work on it.

II.B.4. MFS Web Site

Max Stocker has been working on the web site and it was almost complete as of this meeting date.

II.B.5. Student Travel Grants

Four student travel grants were awarded this year and all awardees were in attendance at the meeting, including: David Anderson, Taconya Piper, Chris Taylor, and Wendy Vandersteen..

II.B.6. Meeting/Symposia Sponsorships

Doug Vaughan and John Hoenig announced a symposium in *Quantitative Methods in Fisheries*. The MFS excom voted to support a workshop in New Zealand on *Training Managers for the 21st Century* to the amount of \$1,000.

II.B.7. Peer Reviews

Fisheries Information Network
ACCSP

III. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

As of the 8 March 2001, there were 231 members in the Marine Fisheries Section. The balance of the MFS account, as of 17 July 2001, was \$12,113.43.

Various issues were discussed regarding keeping members of the MFS in good standing and on ways of encouraging more members to join. Ideas discussed included: sending delinquent members a letter, and changing the requirement of students having to pay to join. AFS President Ken Beal suggested that the marine program be emphasized at the Baltimore meeting next year. He also informed the MFS that the governing board requires more than 200 dues-paying members in the society.

John Boreman made a motion to start the process of changing the bylaws to get the MFS fee waived for students. John Musick seconded the motion.

Motion was passed unanimous with 26 yes votes, with 0 votes of no, and no abstentions.

IV. Oscar E. Sette Award

The Sette Award recognizes meritorious contributions to the field of marine fisheries. For 2001, Anne Richards presented the award to Dr. Daniel Pauly. Anne reviewed Dan's tremendous impact in the field, which all MFS members heartedly agreed, giving Dan a standing ovation.

V. 2001-2002 Program of Work

A. Oceans Act of 2000

The MFS would put together a committee that would serve two functions: 1) Draft AFS positions to address six sections; and 2) identify AFS members that may be needed to testify at various meetings.

Ken Beal stated that these members would represent the MFS, and that there should be no conflict of interest with their respective employers.

Clark Hubbs (AFRIB) has volunteered to work with our section on it. Dave Allison also volunteered to help and suggested that we submit the paper revisions to the PEW Ocean Commission because they will have two more meetings before they compile the fisheries report. Ken Beal mentioned that both Andy Rosenberg and **Paul Sandersford have been selected by the president for the Oceans 2000 Commission.**

B. Federal Advisory Committee on Marine Protected Areas

The MFS can nominate people to this committee if we wish. Churchill Grimes asked whether people that were nominated and selected last year are automatically included this year or do they need to be re-nominated. Dave Allison stated that is was not automatic but that people from last year could submit their nomination again this year.

C. Magnuson Act Reauthorization

Covered previously under section II.B.3.

D. Beverton 1994 Woods Hole Lectures: Emory Anderson

Emory Anderson indicated that the 1994 lecture series by Beverton was being put into hard copy (it was originally videotaped), and is destined to be a NMFS internal publication (approx. 150 pages). NMFS was originally going to print only 700 copies and distribute it internally. Emory suggested that the MFS may want to pick it up after that and re-publish it for sale. Discussion ensued about the relative merits of printing more copies to start with and making a deal with the NMFS for the 700 copies that they want to distribute internally. The MFS decided that it was a good idea to pursue how we could facilitate a larger initial printing, including borrowing funds from the AFS main office and paying it back later from sales. Emory indicated that timing was of the essence (approx. 1 month). Doug Vaughn indicated that the MFS was in the black after selling just 400 copies of the total 1,000 copies of *Beverton's Notes on the Dynamics of Exploited Fisheries* that were printed.

John Hoenig made a motion to accept the project in principle and leave it to the leadership to put it through. The motion was seconded by Doug Vaughn.

Dave Allison put forth an amendment to the motion that the leadership has the option of returning it to the membership as to the manner and extent.

Motion was passed unanimous with 0 votes of no and no abstentions.

E. International Symposium on Trawl Surveys: John Boreman

John put forth an idea of holding an international symposium in 2003 dealing with fisheries independent surveys worldwide. They have 40 yrs of continuous survey data from Cape Sable to Cape Hatteras and thought that it would be worthwhile discussing new technologies and the historical aspects of data bases around the world. John requested that the MFS co-sponsor the symposium, possibly with ICES as a co-sponsor. John would like to see the symposium held at Woods Hole and the extent of sponsorship would determine publication of the symposium. Each sponsor would have 1-2 people on the program committee. Various members spoke of the importance of such a symposium since these data sets tend to be underutilized, get lost, and take massive amounts of time and energy to recover into a usable form. Data sets available via the web should be encouraged.

John Hoenig made a motion to accept sponsorship of this international symposium and to approve it in principle and leave it to the ex-com to work out the details and find 1-2 people to serve on the program committee. Dave Allison seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously with 0 no votes and no abstentions.

F. AFS Symposia

AFS 2002: Baltimore

Paul reported on the meeting in Baltimore, which is being sponsored by the DNR in Maryland, and the Potomac and Tidewater chapters. It is to be family friendly with a reception at the Baltimore Aquarium and a crab feast. The organizing committee already has several marine programs lined up.

International Fisheries Endowment Fund: Max Stocker

Max reported that this was approved by the governing board in March. It is seed money for international symposia that will help international scientists come to the AFS meetings. A typical funding level would be around \$1-2 per member of the MFS. Max indicated that there would be a steering committee that would decide what are appropriate expenditures for the fund (i.e., would it include student travel? Could it be used to send someone from the MFS to an international meeting?).

Max Stocker made a motion for the MFS to contribute \$400 to the International Fisheries Endowment Fund. Doug Vaughan seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously with 0 no votes and no abstentions.

VI. Opportunities

The MFS needs volunteers for the Nominating Committee and the Sette Award Committee. Please contact Anne Richards if you are interested.

The MFS also needs a web guru because we have to maintain our website once it is up and running. John Boreman said that he would discuss it with his staff. John Hoenig suggested that we pay a student to do it, perhaps by paying their annual travel to the AFS meeting (suggested by John Boreman). The MFS will check with the computer user group to see if they have a willing student, and John Boreman will also pursue it.