



**SCHOONER ERNESTINA COMMISSION (SEC)**  
*Department of Conservation and Recreation*  
*Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF JUNE 10, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 10:17am. Commissioners present were Laura Pires-Hester, Brian Rothschild, Licy Do Canto, Fred Sterner, and Eugene Monteiro. Also present were Wendy Pearl, Mary Anne McQuillan, Chuck Smiler and Rick Porteus. Julius Britto participated through the phone.

There were no minutes to review of the May meeting as there was no quorum then. Gene will submit notes of that informal meeting at a later date. Minutes of the April 7, 2016 meeting were approved however.

### UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dagney Ashley of the New Bedford Mayor's office has been appointed to the commission as the MOTT representative, and Jonathan Carvalho has also been appointed to the commission as the Dept of Education representative. 8 of the 9 commission seats are now filled. It was reported that the 9<sup>th</sup> seat will not be filled as it was reserved for the Ernestina Morrissey Historical Association which is defunct. Wendy confirmed that for purposes of a quorum, it is based on the nine seats.

Wendy said she will email progress reports and photos to Mary Anne as to work being done on the vessel. This will be done monthly. She states that Harold Burnham is pleased with the progress to date, and that we are on track regarding spending. She provided progress report as to spending to date. She has asked Boothbay/Harold for an update as to completion of phase 1, and expects that a probable "end date" is within reach. Ernestina-Morrissey [EM] will have been at Boothbay for 2.5 years by this coming November. Wendy feels that a reasonable end date for completion would be the Spring of 2019. She will ask BB if they can add crew to expedite progress. Fred stated that he didn't see but 3 to 4 men working on her during his last visit several weeks ago. Licy asked what provisions are in the contract as to work not being completed within timeframes. Wendy said that BB would need to justify need for extension of time, however the contract can be extended. Request for extension would have to be reasonable. Extension would include paying Harold as well. On the plus side, an extension would allow more time for fund raising opportunities, and allow more time for phase 2 planning. Brian raised concerns about the uncertainty of things. Wendy said that BB's cost would not go up, but Harold's would. His contract is rate based and covers his lodging, travel and hours worked.

DCR has reached out to MMA [Admiral MacDonald] to say it is looking forward to moving forward as to the MOU/A. Coincidentally, Licy had a conversation with the Admiral yesterday and he remains fully on board with the EM initiative. Wendy offered to be the contact person for DCR.

Wendy presented a copy of the signage that identifies the project at BB. She will add the SEC name and logo and the sign will be installed at the work site. Brian and Licy said the sign should also be shown statewide and visible to all stakeholders. Perhaps new SEC member Dagney Ashley could assist with the promotion. Wendy suggests the Commission develop a vision for circulating poster/information.

Chuck submitted a letter requesting authority to offer certain EM surplus and scrap material to be used for artistic purposes. He asked that we approve his request and could not stay to discuss it. The request was initially approved. Laura asked Fred and Mary Anne to assist Wendy in identifying what material Chuck could use/have. Rick stated that some of the material might serve an academic use and stated his concern about discarding such material. Wendy added that the State Pier is not the proper place to store archival material. Laura stated that perhaps the Dept of Education rep on the SEC could be the conduit to investigate this matter. Wendy and Harold are still in the process of identifying what items might be useful for the EM project, including

construction and fund raising purposes. She suggested also that an inventory of useful material should be done over the Summer, but that Chuck's needs ought to be addressed by next week. Rick sees interpretive and educational possibilities from some of the material and requested permission to see the inventory list when it becomes available.

Licy stated that a process should be developed for requests like Chuck's so material is not given away prematurely. Rick raised concerns about giving away anything until a plan is developed. Licy recommends no action on Chuck's request and that Chuck be advised. Licy made the following motion: To forward Chuck's request to DCR and that DCR consult with SEC as needed. Motion was approved. Licy made a second motion: That a plan be developed to handle such requests going forward. Motion passed.

With regard to the audit report that was submitted for fy16, the question was raised by Mr. Columbo of the audit team as to who owns the boat. Wendy indicated that the deed of gift had been provided by DCR some time ago. Licy stressed the importance of accountability and the rigors attached thereto. A copy of the entire report was submitted today to all commissioners.

#### PLANNING FOR ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY'S FUTURE

Laura is hoping for a meeting with Commissioner Roy of DCR soon. It is being suggested that a meeting take place during the middle of July 2016. Laura, Licy and Fred would represent SEC, and SEMA would be invited. Laura emphasized with Georgia the need for us to move forward regarding establishing the MOU/A. Licy thinks the meeting should not include SEMA at this point. Julius disagrees and thinks SEMA should be at the table. After much discussion, it was agreed that SEMA should attend.

#### SCHOONER ERNESTINA-MORRISSEY REPORT

Mary Anne spoke of applying for appropriate grants and stated she is unsure as to what entity should be the grant applicant. It cannot be SEMA, she stated. Wendy asked for clarification as to limitations and process. If grants can be used for phase 1, that's a good thing according to Wendy.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20pm  
Submitted by Eugene Monteiro