



**Meeting Minutes**

***Stewardship Councilors in Attendance:*** Chairman Whitney Hatch, Dennis Smith, Toni Pollac, Elisa Campbell, Michele Hanss, Wayne Klockner, Walter Bickford, Heather Clish

***DCR Staff in Attendance:*** Deputy Commissioner Priscilla Geigis, Andy Backman, Joe Rotondo, Stephen Doody, Stefanie Williams

***Public Attendees:*** Bill Boles, NEMBA; Carl Santamaria, Camper; Sid Balestrier, Camper; Tony Lam, Camper

**Attachments:** RMPs Currently Underway

**Chairman Hatch called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.**

- Chairman Hatch welcomed the Council
- Chairman Hatch reviewed the agenda
- Chairman Hatch asked whether or not there were any questions or comments regarding the agenda

**Commissioner's Report –Commissioner Leo Roy**

*Deputy Commissioner Geigis informed the Council on/of the following matters:*

- Agile Scrum Update
  - **People/Human Resources** – Tasked with identifying improvements for our employees in the areas of navigating EEA human resource consolidation, proactive resolution of employees issues, reviewing/revising seasonal hiring practices, and strengthening career paths.
  - **Information Technology** – Focusing on improved connectivity across the state, developing and implementing scalable solutions to improve network availability.
  - **Fleet Management & Procurement** – Reviewing fleet inventory control, acquisition, maintenance, vehicle assignments, fueling practices, asset disposal, and procurement policies for state vehicles/equipment.
  - **Asset Management & Capital Planning** – Assessing options for an infrastructure maintenance program that looks into all aspects of our asset management system including energy efficiency, utility payments, maintenance management systems and technologies, and beginning the prioritization of physical asset maintenance.
  - **Customer Experience** – Working to enhance constituent engagement in three major areas: inquiries/complaints, DCR's website, and our trail maps and mobile device applications.

- **Communications** – Working to improve internal and external communications in every area, from the DCR intranet to printed materials for areas of the state with limited connectivity.
- DCR completed its participation in the Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP)
- Blue Hills Deer Management Plan update
- “Go Green” guided hikes were offered on Black Friday in participation REI for the nationwide #OptOutside campaign
- The ice skating season began over Thanksgiving weekend with extended hours of public skating times at Boston area rinks
- The Historic Curatorship Program announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) as part of finding a new, long-term curator of the 1903 Gatekeeper’s House at Maudslay State Park in Newburyport
- In honor of Veterans Day, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a one-day waiver of parking fees at all state parks and forests. This initiative directly corresponded with a National Park Service Program that also offered free admission to the federal agency’s properties nationwide on Veterans Day.
- The DCR held its own Veterans Day celebration at Causeway Street with guest speaker Major Gerard Eric Hill, a Boston native and US Army Reserves Officer who has received two Bronze Stars for his service in support of NATO operations in Afghanistan
- Commissioner Roy attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Phase 3C of trail improvements along the Charles River Reservation
- In November, Commissioner Roy dedicated the rehabilitated Lower Mills VFW Post Memorial Playground in Dorchester
- Later this month, DCR’s Universal Access Program will begin its adaptive skating program in East Boston

### **Committee Updates**

#### ***Policy and Planning Committee, Chairwoman Elisa Campbell***

*Chairwoman Campbell informed the Council on/of the following matters:*

- The Policy Committee will want to bring the Blue Hills RMP to the March 2017 meeting
- Discussed with Deputy Commissioner Geigis a tracking system of RMPs

#### ***Finance Committee, Councilor Heather Clish***

*Chairman Hatch informed the Council on/of the following matters:*

- Base line budget analysis
- Soliciting supporters to advocate to the legislature

**Special Business- Presented by Eric Freidman, Director, DOER Leading by Example Program; Jillian DiMedio, Assistant Director, DOER Leading by Example Program; Susan Smiley, Director of Facilities & Infrastructures EOEAA**

*Eric Friendman, Jillian DiMedio, and Susan Smiley informed the Council on/of the following matters:*

- Overview of DCR solar installations and successes
- Upcoming DCR solar initiatives and opportunities
- Role of partnerships in future successes
- Ongoing challenges and next steps
- EOEEA's solar projects

### **Approval of Minutes**

- Motion by Councilor Klockner, seconded by Councilor Campbell to accept the October 2016 minutes. All in favor, motion carried.
- Motion by Councilor Bickford, seconded by Councilor Campbell to approve meeting dates for 2017

### **New Business**

- No new business

### **Public Comment**

**The following constituents expressed their opinions/issues/matters to the Council:**

- Bill Boles
  - New England Mountain Bike Association supports the green budget initiative
  - Supportive of the 1<sup>st</sup> Day Hikes program and would like to see it include rides, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, etc.
- Carl Santamaria
  - Discussed the delayed opening date for camping, specifically at Nickerson State Park

### **Closing Comment**

- No Closing Comments

### **Meeting Schedule**

Next meeting will be held on Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at Quabbin Reservoir.

*Chairman Hatch adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m.*