

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – 1 DECEMBER 2005**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kathleen Dolan (Designee of James Hanlon, Director of Environmental Law Enforcement)  
Brendan Foley (Marine Archaeologist) [awaiting reappointment]  
John Hoagland (Dive Community Representative)  
Lenny Loparto (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)  
Kevin Mooney (Designee of Mike Misslin, Acting Director of DCR Division of Waterways)  
Joseph Pelczarski (Designee of Susan Snow-Cotter, Director of Coastal Zone Management)  
Victor Mastone, Director (Staff for the Board)  
David Trubey, Deputy Director (Staff for the Board)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ed Bell (Designee of Cara Metz, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission)  
Marcie Bilinski (Dive Community Representative)  
Terry French (Designee of John Warner, State Archivist)

**PROCEEDINGS:**

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources was convened by the Director, Victor Mastone at 1:44 PM on 1 December 2005 in the CZM Conference Room at 251 Causeway Street, Boston.

**1. MINUTES**

**A. Minutes of 1, 29 September 2005**

Victor asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 1 September 2005. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

Kevin Mooney moved to accept the minutes of the 1 September 2005 public meeting. John Hoagland seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Victor asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 29 September 2005. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

Kevin Mooney moved to accept the minutes of the 29 September 2005 public meeting. Brendan Foley seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Election of Board Officers**

Victor stated that the Board annually elects its two officers, Director and Deputy Director. In 2005, Victor Mastone served as Director and David Trubey served as Deputy Director. Victor reminded the Board that it could nominate whoever it would like, but suggested that the Board keep with past practice and consider nominating its staff for these positions to facilitate administration. Victor asked the Board members for nominations.

Kevin Mooney nominated Victor Mastone for the position of Director. John Hoagland seconded the nomination. John Hoagland nominated David Trubey for the position of Deputy Director. Kevin Mooney seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations.

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Joe Pelczarski moved to elect Victor Mastone as Director and David Trubey as Deputy Director of the Board for 2006. John Hoagland seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**B. 2006 Schedule of Meetings**

Victor proposed a continuation of the bi-monthly schedule of regular public meetings in 2006. He noted that this would not preclude the Board from holding additional public meetings if there were a need. In addition, he asked the Board to consider not scheduling meetings in June, July, and August, as it is difficult achieving a quorum in the summer months. Victor proposed scheduling meetings for 26 January, 30 March, 25 May, 28 September and 30 November.

Kevin Mooney moved to adopt the dates of 26 January, 30 March, 25 May, 28 September and 30 November as the Board's schedule of public meetings for 2006. Brendan Foley seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**C. NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration Peer Review Committee**

Victor reported that he served as a member of the Peer Review Committee for NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration. The committee met in November in Silver Spring, MD to discuss the 2006 exploration grant proposals. Victor estimated there were ninety proposals with about one third specifically for archaeological projects. Also, the average requested dollar value for the proposals seems to have increased since last year. Victor stated that he reviewed twenty proposals over the two day period as there were only four archaeologists available this year. Brendan Foley asked Victor when the grants are officially rewarded. Victor replied that notice is typically forthcoming in the spring, but that the program's budget may be cut. He did not know what affect these cuts could have on the program schedule.

**3. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

There were no Board member reports.

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: OUTREACH**

**A. Archaeology Month 2005**

Victor reported that the Board's Archaeology Month event at the Custom House Maritime Museum in Newburyport was held on 15 and 16 October. Co-sponsored by the Newburyport Maritime Society and the Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL), the event highlighted the technology utilized by marine archaeologists to locate and study shipwrecks and other sites. Saturday's program featured educational activities for kids including a simulated shipwreck excavation, which David Trubey described to the Board members. Sunday's program was geared more for adults and featured three lectures. David Robinson of PAL discussed the methodology for locating and excavating submerged prehistoric sites through his recent work in Denmark. Presentations were also made by Matthew Lawrence of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS) and Victor Mastone who introduced the new Shoreline Heritage Identification Partnerships Strategy program. Despite the poor weather, the weekend was successful.

**Resolution**

Victor suggested that the Board take this opportunity to express its gratitude to the Newburyport Maritime Society, David Robinson, and Matthew Lawrence for their participation in this year's Archaeology Month event.

Joe Pelczarski moved: It is resolved by the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources to express its appreciation to the Newburyport Maritime Society, David Robinson of PAL, and Matthew Lawrence of the SBNMS for their contributions to Archaeology Month 2005. John Hoagland seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So resolved.

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**B. Cole Elementary School**

Victor reported that he gave a presentation to the Robotics Team at the Cole Elementary School in Norwell on 31 October. Members of the team were participating in the Lego Robotics Challenge of which this year's theme was an ocean odyssey. These students were required to design and construct a Lego robot to accomplish various tasks along a set course. In addition, the students were required to do a research project related to the theme; they chose the protection of shipwrecks. Victor was asked to describe the Board's activities and discuss with them their various protection strategies including the covering of shipwreck sites with a protective barrier. The students were pleasantly surprised to learn that a similar plan has been used at some sites in Spanish waters whereby chain link fencing is placed over exposed shipwrecks prior to reburial. Victor noted that the school contacted him through Debra Jackson who is a school nurse and part of the Bassings Cove Maritime Association.

**C. Maritime Heritage Education Conference**

Victor reported that he attended the first Maritime Heritage Education Conference. Organized by NOAA, the conference was held on 18-20 November at the National Maritime Center in Norfolk, VA. The conference focused on the teaching and promotion of maritime heritage to the general public. Victor gave a presentation co-authored by David Trubey and Caroleann McPherson and Lisa Hutchings of the Newburyport Maritime Society, entitled "More than Just Marine Debris: Massachusetts Shoreline Heritage Identification Partnerships Strategy – SHIPS". The conference consisted of approximately fifty presentations and roundtable discussions.

**D. Society for Historical Archaeology Conference**

Victor reported that he and David would be attending the annual conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) in Sacramento, CA on 11-15 January. Victor and Chris Amer, South Carolina State Underwater Archaeologist, have organized and will lead the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Government Maritime Managers Forum. In keeping with the conference theme of life on the edge, this year's forum is entitled, "By Guess or By God" and will focus on issues confronting state maritime archaeologists and preservation programs. Victor stated that he is a co-author/co-presenter of a paper with Brian Jordon of NOAA's Marine Protected Areas Center on the applicability of marine protected areas at both the state and federal level. Victor reminded the Board that he serves on the SHA's UNESCO Committee and the Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology which meet during the conference.

**E. Beverly Rotary Club**

Victor reported that he will be speaking to members of the Beverly Rotary Club next week on the archaeology related to one of the proposed offshore LNG terminals. His presentation will include ROV and sidescan images of some of the shipwrecks that were investigated last summer. He noted that these wrecks lie outside of the proposed project's area of impact and the investigations were not required as part of site mitigation efforts. The project proponent, Northeast Gateway/Excelerate, voluntarily undertook this additional work.

**F. Nautical Talk**

Victor reported that he was interviewed for Nautical Talk Radio, a broadcast of WATD in Marshfield. The interview, which aired on 6 November, focused on BUAR's Shoreline Heritage Identification Partnerships Strategy.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. William Bradbury**

Victor reported that Mr. William Bradbury had submitted his Reconnaissance Permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's Regulations. Mr. Bradbury was in attendance to present his application.

Mr. Bradbury reported that 2005 was a fairly typical year for his operation as far as fieldwork is concerned. He stated that he and his crew were limited to three or four site visits mostly due to weather and sea conditions. However, he stated that his research continued throughout 2005. Among other activities, he corresponded with the David Library of the

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American Revolution in Washington Crossing, PA. He stated that the library sent him a number of helpful documents regarding the vessel for which he is searching and extended an invitation for him to visit.

Concerning his plans for 2006, Mr. Bradbury stated that he expects to continue with limited fieldwork and more archival research. To better deal with the intense currents in his permit area, he and his team plan to access the site only during spring tides. He expressed his sense that the project needs assistance from a qualified marine archaeologist if it is to progress. Ideally, he would like to see the project become part of an archaeological field school for one of the local colleges or universities and stated he is very open to any suggestions from the Board. John Hoagland asked Mr. Bradbury if anyone has shown interest in his project. Mr. Bradbury replied that there has been interest from a number of weekend divers, but no one with the right qualifications. He added that the lack of interest from qualified people and organizations is likely a result of the fact that he does not really know where to look for assistance. He noted that the University of Massachusetts has a field station near his permit area and that perhaps it would be interested. He described his project as having great potential in terms of adding to our knowledge of US history and emphasized that he would like to ensure that all work is conducted in a professional manner.

Kevin Mooney asked Victor what local universities or organizations have programs in underwater archaeology. Victor replied that there are individual students and teachers, but very few organizations or schools have formal programs. John Hoagland noted that there is a small underwater archaeology program at Brown University in RI. Kathleen Dolan stated that Northeastern has a marine biology program based in Nahant and suggested that perhaps it might be interested. Victor acknowledged Kathleen's suggestion, but noted that to his knowledge, there is no one on staff that has a historical/archaeological background.

Brendan asked Mr. Bradbury if he has actually located vessel remains. Mr. Bradbury replied that clusters of anomalies were observed through remote sensing prior to his initial contact with the Board, but very little has been observed since. He noted that due to the construction and age of the vessel for which he is searching, it is possible that very little structure will be left. He also reported that some portions of his permit area contain pieces granite, which could have been the source of the anomalies.

John Hoagland moved to renew the Reconnaissance Permit held by Mr. William Bradbury for his Gloucester (Annisquam) site with all standard conditions in effect. Kevin Mooney seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**B. Neil Good**

Victor reported that Neil Good had submitted his Reconnaissance Permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. Mr. Good was in attendance to present his application.

Mr. Good was disappointed to report that he was unable to conduct much fieldwork or new research over the past year primarily due to time constraints. He reported that he did however, write a brief paper presenting the idea of southern Cape Cod, particularly Waquoit Bay, as a possible location of the land described as Vinland in *The Greenlanders' Saga*. Mr. Good noted that he prepared the paper as a public comment for the proposed Cape Wind project review by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Good reported that he contacted Jon Jolly of Jon B. Jolly, Inc. in Seattle who has been in the marine remote sensing field for approximately fifty years. Mr. Jolly had offered the use of a sub-bottom profiler to survey Waquoit Bay. Mr. Good stated that unfortunately, the plan did not come to fruition for a number of reasons including Mr. Good's feeling that perhaps this particular device might not be the most appropriate for use in his permit area. However, he may reconsider the offer in the coming year.

Mr. Good reported that in early October 2005, two visitors from Norway, Frode Omdahl and his wife Karin, traveled to Cape Cod to see Waquoit Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Omdahl live in the same town as does Gunnar Tornoe, whose father, Johannes Kr. Tornoe proposed in the 1960s that an archaeological survey should be conducted at Waquoit Bay to look for evidence of a Norse expedition. Mr. Good also reported that he has recently been reviewing a web blog entitled "Runer for Columbus" on which are posted several references to Waquoit Bay. He stated that the web blog's publisher, Knut Rage of Norway, shares the opinion that the Bay might be the area described in the *Greenlanders' Saga* and is worthy of further study.

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John Hoagland asked Mr. Good if he gave any public presentations on this material in 2005. Mr. Good stated that other than his comments at the public hearing of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the proposed Cape Wind project, he did not give any other public presentations. He added that he is may be participating in a lecture series sponsored by the Explorer's Club next spring in New York.

Brendan Foley mentioned to Mr. Good that he had recently spoken with a Cape Air pilot who thinks there is evidence in the sagas of a Norse expedition to islands off the coast of Canada. Brendan suggested it might be beneficial for both Mr. Good and this pilot to meet and discuss their research interests. Mr. Good acknowledged Brendan's suggestion.

Victor stated that he hopes Mr. Good will conduct more fieldwork next year and perhaps look at other potential resources in his permit area. Mr. Good replied that he is planning to research other aspects of Waquoit Bay's history and resources, including the remains of Peter's Wharf on the north eastern portion of the Bay. He described the structure as a commercial wharf dating to approximately 1800. He is hoping to take aerial photos of the wharf and compare them with a number of historical charts.

Lenny Loparto asked Mr. Good if he is aware that an archaeological reconnaissance survey is currently under way in Falmouth for water powered industrial resources. Lenny added that the survey is being managed by the Falmouth Historical Commission and focuses on coastal rivers that empty into the Bay on the southeast side of the town. Mr. Good stated that he was not aware of this project, but that he would look into it.

Kevin Mooney moved to grant renewal of the Reconnaissance Permit (00-002) held by Neil Good for his East Falmouth/Mashpee site with all standard conditions in effect and the further condition that the permittee coordinate his activities with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) staff at the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, maintain regular communication with the DCR archaeologist, DCR Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Program, the Mashpee Tribal Council and the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Joe Pelczarski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**C. Bassings Cove Maritime Association**

Victor introduced Hank Lynch of the Bassings Cove Maritime Association (BCMA) who was in attendance to present information on his organization's educational and outreach program. Mr. Lynch explained that last winter he and others involved in BCMA completed courses on ocean education that were offered by NOAA. Over the past several months, BCMA has been using the wreck of the *Forest Queen* off Scituate as a learning tool incorporating the federal curriculum guidelines for such subjects as science and history. Through the help of the Scituate Historical Society and the Town of Scituate, which donated a small building to the project, BCMA has been providing school children in Norwell and Scituate the unique opportunity to work on concretions recovered from the shipwreck and the conservation of artifacts. The BCMA education program, of which this activity is just a small part, allows both children and adults to learn about archaeological site formation, degradation, marine life, history and other topics related to the ocean and archaeology as well as their local maritime heritage. Mr. Lynch provided additional information on the robotics competition (to which Victor referred in the DIRECTOR'S REPORT) and BCMA's role in showing students the types of materials recovered from the *Forest Queen* site, what it is like to work in an ocean environment and the significance of math, science and history in our changing world. The BCMA outreach program is just completing its first year and it will hopefully continue to grow. Victor thanked Mr. Lynch for the update and expressed his happiness that this part of BCMA's project has come together so successfully.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Timothy Wallace**

Victor reported that the Board's research fellow, Timothy Wallace, was hired by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Mr. Wallace volunteered many hours to the Board during the summer and fall organizing the Paul Sherman Collection and assisting with GIS projects.

**B. James Karos**

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Victor introduced James Karos to the Board. Mr. Karos, who has been a regular attendee of meetings over the past several months, recently completed the Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society's (MAHS) correspondence course on nautical archaeology and is preparing to survey a shipwreck in Chelsea Creek.

Mr. Karos provided the Board with his background and stated that he was very pleased with the MAHS course and is anxious to begin his survey. He has been conducting archival research for the past several weeks in an effort to determine the historical uses of the property adjacent to the wrecks. He shared some historical charts with the Board and his belief that the shipwrecks along the shoreline are remains of schooner barges involved in the coastal coal trade. Mr. Karos stated that his goal in this project is to document an actual shipwreck using methods learned through the MAHS course. The documentation will be achieved through additional archival research, mapping and creating a photo mosaic of one of the wrecks. He stressed to the Board that all of his work will involve nondestructive techniques and he will not be excavating. He hopes to begin the survey this weekend and will provide the Board with progress reports. Kathleen Dolan asked Mr. Karos if his work will be limited by the tides. He stated that he can only access the site at low tide so he will have to plan his fieldwork carefully. Victor stated that Mr. Karos and he have discussed this site at length and that Victor and Warren Reiss examined it several years ago. While they determined that at least one of the wrecks is likely a schooner barge, there was some dissimilarity among the collection of wrecks that are of interest. Victor wished Mr. Karos the best of luck in his endeavor and added that this is a good opportunity for the Board to see how the site has changed since it was last examined. He reminded Mr. Karos that the area could be contaminated with industrial waste and advised that take the appropriate cautionary measures. Victor noted that the project does not require a permit from the Board at this stage.

Kevin Mooney moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:37 PM. Kathleen Dolan seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor T. Mastone  
Director