COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – 25 September 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alexandra Crowder (Designee of Brona Simon, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission)
Terry French (Designee of John Warner, State Archivist)
James Hennessey (Designee of Chris Baker, Acting Director of Environmental Law Enforcement)
Kevin Mooney (Designee of Director of DCR Division of Waterways)
Gary Murad (Dive Community Representative)
Dan Sampson (Designee of Bruce Carlisle, Director of Coastal Zone Management)
Victor Mastone, Director (Staff for the Board)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marcie Bilinski (Dive Community Representative)
Lenny Loparto (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)
Graham McKay (Marine Archaeologist)

PROCEEDINGS:

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources was convened by the Director, Victor Mastone, at 1:40 PM on 25 September 2014 in the CZM Conference Room at 251 Causeway Street, Boston.

Victor introduced Alexandra Crowder as the new alternate designee of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and Lt. James Hennessey who was representing the Director of Environmental Law Enforcement [Massachusetts Environmental Police].

1. MINUTES OF 29 MAY 2014

Victor asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 29 May 2014. There were no comments or corrections.

Kevin Mooney moved to accept the minutes of the public meeting held on 29 May 2014. Gary Murad seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Boston Sunday Globe Opinion Article

Victor reported that the Board was featured in an Opinion piece entitled "Dredge the harbor with care" by Heather Hopp-Bruce that appeared in the Boston Sunday Globe newspaper on 7 September 2014 (pages K6-K7). A copy of this opinion piece was previously distributed to the Board members. He noted there was a follow-up letter in the Globe's Readers' Forum from Deb Hadden, Port Director for Massport, on 21 September 2014 (page K10) where the Port Director essentially pledged Massport will continue to work with its historic preservation partners.

B. Coffins Beach Shipwreck

Victor informed the Board that he has been investigating a thus far anonymous shipwreck site at Coffins Beach in Gloucester. He has been assisted by BUAR member Graham McKay (Lowell's Boat Shop), BUAR research fellow Leland Crawford, David Robinson (D.S. Robinson & Associates) and his sons Noah and Michael, Matt Lawrence (Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary), Jude Seminara (Cape Ann Museum), local resident Mark Hirsh, and shipbuilder Harold Burnham. Victor said he had prepared a brief power point presentation on their investigation of this shipwreck and he would show it at the end of the Board meeting.

3. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Victor stated that with the absence of Lenny Loparto at today's meeting that he wanted to note, on Lenny's behalf, that October is Massachusetts Archaeology Month.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: OUTREACH

A. Bay State Council of Divers Meeting

Victor reported that the Bay State Council of Divers met on June 18 and September 17. These meetings focused on the Bay State Council's Club Picnic/Treasure Hunt. Vic attended the September 17 meeting. The event will be held on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at a new location, Plum Cove Beach in Gloucester. Victor said he would distribute information on the Board, particularly the Exempt Site List, and answer questions. He would also assist at the registration table.

Victor noted that the Council is working with the Board to re-install the underwater memorial plaque on Minot's Ledge. The next Council meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2014.

B. Department of Youth Services

Victor reported that he gave a lecture and hands-on artifact discussion for students at the Department of Youth Services' residential facility in Westborough on August 5th. The title for the lecture was "*Drift Wood, Stone Circles, Three Canoes, and a Piano: Stories of Collaboration and Public Engagement*". After the lecture, Victor passed around some artifact from the Board's collection for discussion. He noted the students asked a lot of good germane questions.

C. Cape Cod Museum of Natural History Lecture Series

Victor reported that he gave a lecture at 1 PM on August 20 at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History as part of their Summer lecture series. The presentation will be entitled "*Underwater Archaeology: 17th Century Nipmuc Mishoonahs in Lake Quinsigamond*". Despite the good weather, there were still 30-40 attendees.

D. Archaeology Month October 2014

Victor reported the Board will be participating in several Archaeology Month programs:

(1). DCR Nantasket Beach State Reservation

Victor reported that he will be giving a lecture entitled, "*Finding the First Minot's Ledge Lighthouse: "I shall…die in the performance of my duty*", at the Nantasket Beach Resort at 7 PM on Thursday, October 9th. The lecture is part of a lecture series in collaboration with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Hull Lifesaving Museum and the Friends of the Hull Public Library. Victor noted he would be filling in for DCR archaeologist, Ellen Berkland, who will be out on medical leave at that time.

(2). Archaeology Month 2014/Archaeology Fair

Victor reported that October will be a busy month for the Board as it will be participating in several Archaeology Month programs including the Museum of Science/Archaeological Institute of America Archaeology Fair on Friday and Saturday, October 17th and 18th. The first day is for school groups and the second day is for family groups. We will be doing our usual hands-on shipwreck activity. Victor said Leland Crawford, Mark Agostini and Sharon Mastone would be helping both days, but was looking for assistance if anyone was interested.

(3). Eugene Winter Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society

Victor reported that he will be giving a lecture to the Eugene Winter Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society on Tuesday, October 21, at the R.S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology at Phillips Academy in Andover. The meeting starts at 7 PM. The presentation will be entitled "*Underwater Archaeology: 17th Century Nipmuc Mishoonahs in Lake Quinsigamond*".

E. Harvard-Kent School Boston Harbor Oral History Project

Victor reported he would be participating in an oral history project being undertaken by the fifth grade students at the Harvard-Kent School in Charlestown. It is comprised of participating in a panel discussion on October 10 with follow-up interviews with students in November. It is part of a program being run by Community Boat Building at the school.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Alexander Bezkorovainy

Victor reported that the permit held by Alexander Bezkorovainy was up for renewal today. Mr. Bezkorovainy had submitted his renewal application and annual report after the deadline prescribed in the Board's regulations. Victor noted the application was otherwise complete, so the Board needed to act to extend the permit until its next meeting. Alex Bezkorovainy was in attendance to represent his permit application.

Mr. Bezkorovainy noted he has been working on the permit since 2006. He had been working on another project for the past couple of years and hoped to get access to their equipment. Unfortunately, that project lost its funding. He noted his difficulties in securing a reliable vessel. He recently purchased his own vessel and is completing repairs/rebuild. He noted that he took a job near where he stores his boat to facilitate working on it after work and on weekends. He has his dive team lined up for when his boat is ready.

Gary asked Mr. Bezkorovainy when he was last on site. He responded about two years ago with his former partner. Gary asked him to review what they found so far. Mr. Bezkorovainy listed several objects and a hull fragment. He explained they were looking for a vessel lost in the 1790s, but the hull sheathing was Muntz metal which came into use in the 1820s. He noted a large number of wrecks were lost in that area [of Salem Sound]. He said they observed an odd concretion with iron gone but still had some lead, wood and hemp rope wrapped around it. Dan asked if they had any ideas what it might be. Mr. Bezkorovainy speculated it could have been a heavily weighted lobster buoy or fishing equipment or something unknown to them.

Gary Murad moved to extend the Excavation Permit (06-002) held by Alexander Bezkorovainy for his Salem Sound site until the next meeting of the Board scheduled for December 4, 2014 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. with all standard conditions in effect, and the further condition that the permittee submit, for approval by Board staff, a detailed plan for the selection, transportation, and conservation of any objects intended to leave the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, prior to undertaking such action. Kevin Mooney seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Victor asked that Mr. Bezkorovainy send any updates he might have before the next Board meeting.

B. Joseph K. Dietlin

Victor reported that Mr. Dietlin had been in the field this summer. Mr. Dietlin had advised the Board when he would be in field and subsequently submitted monthly email summary report. Mr.

Dietlin has approval to excavate several tests. Nothing was found in the units. He also conducted magnetometer and hand-held metal detector surveys.

C. Gary Esper

Victor reported that the two permits held by Gary Esper were up for renewal today. Mr. Esper had submitted his renewal applications and annual reports in conformance with the Board's regulations. Victor noted that Mr. Esper could not be in attendance to represent his two permit renewal applications.

Victor stated that Mr. Esper had contacted him yesterday to explain that he would be unable to attend the Board meeting. He told Victor that he was experiencing car problems in transit from Florida and would not return in time for the meeting today. Victor relayed Mr. Esper's brief update. For this year, he concentrated mainly on historical research and he had been assisting Mr. Dietlin in the field this summer. He planned to be in the field full-time next year. Victor noted the Board would grant renewals or extensions when permittee was not in attendance.

Kevin noted the locations of the permit areas on the map accompanying the permit renewal applications depicted Area 1 and Area 2 and not the permit numbers. Victor replied the northern area referred to as Area 1 corresponded with the Excavation Permit No. 12-005 and Area 2 corresponded with Reconnaissance permit No. 12-006.

Kevin Mooney moved to grant renewal of Excavation Permit No. 12-005 held by Gary Esper for his Eastham/Wellfleet site with all standard conditions in effect, and the further condition that the permittee coordinate all field activities with the staff of the Cape Cod National Seashore. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Kevin Mooney moved to grant renewal of Reconnaissance Permit No. 12-006 held by Gary Esper for his Eastham site with all standard conditions in effect and the further condition that the permittee coordinate all field activities with the staff of the Cape Cod National Seashore. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

C. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.

Victor reminded the Board that Special Use Permit, No. 13-002, was granted to Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., at a special meeting held 25 July 2013. This permit was for the Sea Link Power Cable Project around Cape Ann. Due to the Board's Summer recess, this permit would was previously extended to expire on 25 September 2014.

There was no further discussion.

Kevin Mooney moved to grant renewal of Special Use Permit (13-002) held by Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., for the Sealink Power Cable Project with all standard conditions in effect. Jim Hennessey seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

D. Maxwell Taylor Kennedy

Victor reminded the Board that the reconnaissance permit, No. 13-003, was granted to Max Kennedy at a special meeting held 25 July 2013. Due to the Board's Summer recess, this permit was extended to 25 September 2014. Mr. Kennedy had submitted his Annual Report, but not his renewal application form or fee. This was an incomplete renewal package. Victor said he had apprised Mr. Kennedy of this status and his options. He requested an extension.

Kevin asked if this was a second extension. Victor noted the previous extension was due to the timing of Board meetings and not at the permittee's request. As the Board does not

generally meet during the summer, this type of extension would not typically be counted as part the Board's two extension limit policy. Victor said that today's extension would be considered a first extension with respect to the Board's policy. There was no further discussion.

Dan Sampson moved to extend the expiration date of Reconnaissance Permit (13-003) held by Maxwell Taylor Kennedy for his Hyannis Harbor site until the next scheduled Board meeting on 4 December 2014 with all standard conditions in effect. Gary Murad seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

E. Michael Jr. and Joseph Zdanowicz

Victor reported that the permit held by Michael, Jr., and Joseph Zdanowicz was up for renewal at today's meeting. He had the Zdanowicz brothers renewal notice by mail and email. He had not received the renewal application or any other communications from them. Victor noted the Board typically will give a permittee the benefit of the doubt and grant an extension in such cases.

There was no further discussion.

Kevin Mooney moved to extend the expiration date of Reconnaissance Permit No. 11-006 held by Michael, Jr., and Joseph Zdanowicz for their Beverly/Manchester-by-the-Sea site until the next meeting of the Board scheduled for December 4, 2014 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was no further business.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT (continued)

B. Coffins Beach Shipwreck (continued)

Victor made a brief power point presentation to the Board describing the preliminary investigations of the Coffins Beach Site. He noted in June he was sent links to a shipwreck being discussed on Good Morning Gloucester. In July, CZM was contacted by Adam Ricciardiello about the shipwreck's identity and that email was forwarded to the Board for reply. Victor said he responded to Mr. Ricciardiello and subsequently performed an initial site visit on July 17. The Ricciardiellos graciously granted permission to access the beach through their property. He returned again on August 11 and September 8. He noted the local residents, who are very protective of the beach, visited them during their on-site activities. Through a series of ten power point slides, Victor reviewed their preliminary field investigation to date and their tentative findings. He noted they found some small fragments of coral among the ballast stones. Based on the size and tight spacing of the frames, lack of iron fittings, basic shape of vessel's outline, they are beginning to believe they may have an early vernacular style vessel known as Chebacco boat, possibly dating to the eighteenth century. They planned to return next Spring, but he will continue to monitor the site over the next few months.

Kevin Mooney moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 PM. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor T. Mastone
Director