

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – 26 JANUARY 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Anthony Abdal-Khabir, Deputy Director (Designee of James McGinn, Director of Environmental Law Enforcement)  
Marcie Bilinski (Dive Community Representative)  
Terry French (Designee of John Warner, State Archivist)  
Graham McKay (Marine Archaeologist)  
Gary Murad (Dive Community Representative)  
Jonathan Patton (Designee of Brona Simon, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission)  
Nadia Waski (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)  
Victor Mastone, Director (Staff for the Board)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Michael Driscoll (Designee, Director of DCR Division of Waterways)  
Dan Sampson (Designee of Bruce Carlisle, Director of Coastal Zone Management)

**PROCEEDINGS:**

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources was convened by the Director, Victor Mastone at 1:31 PM on 26 January 2017 in the CZM Conference Room at 251 Causeway Street in Boston.

**1. MINUTES**

**A. Minutes 1 December 2016**

Victor asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 1 December 2016. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

Terry French moved to accept the minutes of the 1 December 2016 public meeting. Anthony Abdal-Khabir seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**Change in the Order of Business**

Victor stated that as chair he would be changing the order of business at this point and move directly to Old Business and then New Business.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Bassings Cove Maritime Association**

Victor reported that Bassings Cove Maritime Association (BCMA) had submitted its Excavation Permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. He noted they had again submitted a very thorough application. He noted that Tom Mulloy, Debra Jackson and Hank Lynch were present to represent their permit.

Hank Lynch acted as spokesperson for the group. He reminded the Board that they have been investigating the site since 1990. It has been a great pleasure for them. They did not undertake many dives this year, but rather concentrated on managing the collection with the Scituate Historical Society's Maritime and Irish Mossing Museum for both exhibition and education activities. It brings large numbers of visitors to the museum. They have an interactive activity with children and adults helping in the concretion reduction process. They have been collaborating with the Norwell and Scituate public schools, and giving presentations at the YMCA's science center, Isaac Winslow house in Marshfield, and the

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Massachusetts Archaeological Society in Middleborough. On February 8<sup>th</sup> they will be presenting at the Scituate Sciences Center. With the students, they emphasize STEM components.

Marcie congratulated them on their fine work. Vic noted their outreach efforts were impressive. There were no further questions.

Marcie Bilinski moved to grant renewal of the Excavation Permit (91-001) held by Bassings Cove Maritime Association for its Scituate site with all standard conditions remaining in effect and the additional condition that the permittee submit for Board approval a site assessment and detailed scope of work prepared by the project archaeologist prior to undertaking any site excavation activities relative to the removal of the main conglomerate. Graham McKay seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**B. James M. Karos**

Victor reported that James Karos had not submitted his Reconnaissance Permit renewal application and Annual Report. He noted he had not heard from Mr. Karos. He observed that was unusual and speculated this might be due to Mr. Karos's continuing his education efforts. Mr. Karos was not in attendance to represent his application.

Hank Lynch asked he could address the Board regarding Mr. Karos. He noted the excellent work of his site documentation, particularly his photo-mosaic, and his efforts to educate himself. Hank stated he has been an inspiration to their project. Marcie and Vic observed the same about Mr. Karos' enthusiasm. Gary Murad asked if we had received anything from him. Vic noted he would typically email or call by now, but he had not received anything.

Graham McKay moved to extend the expiration date for Reconnaissance Permit (06-001) held by James M. Karos for his Chelsea Creek site (Revere/Boston) until the next scheduled meeting of the Board for March 30, 2017 with all standard conditions remaining in effect. Marcie Bilinski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**C. William Dupsha**

Victor reminded the Board that they granted Mr. Dupsha an extension at the December meeting at his request. The Board had subsequently received a complete permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. Mr. Dupsha was in attendance.

Mr. Dupsha said he would like to continue this year. He noted he got off to a bad start in his first year, but wanted to keep at and try to improve this year. They had undertaken a few dives and some archival research. They had not come up with anything yet. Victor suggested that they might want to look at Ray Bates just published book, *Shipwrecks North of Boston: Volume 2, Cape Ann*.

Graham McKay moved to renew, retroactive to 1 December 2016, Reconnaissance Permit No. 15-005 held William Dupsha for his Manchester site with all standard conditions in effect. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**D. Kenneth Medeiros**

Victor reminded the Board that they granted Mr. Medeiros an extension at the December meeting to allow time for him to submit a complete application. The Board had subsequently received a complete permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. Mr. Medeiros was not in attendance. There was no further discussion.

Graham McKay moved to renew, retroactive to 1 December 2016, Reconnaissance Permit No. 07-003 held Kenneth Medeiros for his Duxbury site with all standard conditions in effect. Jonathon Patton seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

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**4. NEW BUSINESS**

Victor stated the Board would be considering two isolated find requests from the same individual. He explained that while the Board would act on each request separately. He was wanted to present some common information first. He reported that he had been contacted regarding the recovery an isolated vessel component by a lobsterman. He asked the informant to give the lobsterman his number and tell him that Vic would be willing to meet with him to find out the circumstances of the recoveries and explain the isolated find exemption process. They met at DMF's Annisquam Field Station on November 29, 2016. The lobsterman, Toby Burnham of Gloucester, showed Vic two objects obtained at different times from widely separated locations. He explained the circumstances for each inadvertent recovery. Such accidental discoveries are common. Vic said he told him they could be treated as isolated finds under the Board regulations and that he could assist Mr. Burnham in completing the two applications

**A. Isolated Find Exemption (Pintel) – Toby Burnham – Gloucester**

The object was a brass pintel with a portion of rudder was recovered off Braces Cove in Gloucester. The location is south of the Snyder permit area, but possibly from within the buffer one. It was tangled in his lobster trawl when he was retrieving gear. The remains are outside any archaeological context. Given the type of objects and the circumstances of the recovery, Victor did not believe they constitute an archaeological site.

Terry French moved to waive jurisdiction over isolated find number 2017-IF-0001 [pintel] recovered from waters off Braces Cove in Gloucester and relinquish all rights, title and interest to the Toby Burnham. Graham McKay seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**B. Isolated Find Exemption (Gudgeon) – Toby Burnham – Gloucester**

The object was a brass gudgeon with a portion of stern post was recovered off a pier in Gloucester's Inner Harbor. It was hooked while he was grappling to recover lobster gear that fell at the dock. The wood was highly degraded and worm eaten. The remains are outside any archaeological context. Given the type of objects and the circumstances of the recovery, Victor did not believe they constitute an archaeological site.

Marcie Bilinski moved to waive jurisdiction over isolated find number 2017-IF-0001 [gudgeon] recovered from waters of Inner Harbor in Gloucester and relinquish all rights, title and interest to the Toby Burnham. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**Change in the Order of Business**

Victor stated that as chair he would be changing the order of business at this point and move to Director's Report, Board Member Reports and Public Engagement Activities.

**2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center**

Victor said was asked by the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center if he could come to their facility and examine some artifacts recovered by a scallop dragger off George's Bank. Vic said he invited Calvin Mires, David Robinson, Arne Carr and John Fish to assist in the examination. On December 2, the day after the December Board meeting, the group met at the Center and examined those objects and others objects on display at the New Bedford Library. There were also joined by two semi-retired fishermen who note it was quite common for them to recover this kind of material. While these objects could not be assigned to any specific lost vessel, they provided some information. Vic speculated that they materials may not have even been from the same vessel. He thought it was likely a sailing vessel as

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no engine machinery or parts were recovered by that dragger. More importantly, they opened a discussion on how to engage the commercial fishing community.

**B. Plymouth to Salisbury Area Committee**

The next meeting of Plymouth to Salisbury, MA Area Committee for Oil Spill Response is scheduled for the morning of February 22. It will be held at the EPA Lab in Chelmsford. The agenda has not yet been distributed.

**5. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

There were no Board member reports.

**6. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

**A. Society for Historical Archaeology's Annual Conference**

Victor reported that he would be attending the Annual Conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology in Ft. Worth, TX, on January 4-8, 2017. Victor noted that he and Susan Langley of the Maryland Historical Trust have organized the Annual Government Maritime Managers' Forum representing state, federal, and foreign government programs. This year's forum was entitled *Government Maritime Managers' Forum XXV: From Dust Monkeys to Sand Hogs*. There were about 50 people participating in the forum. He also presented a paper jointly with Leland Crawford entitled: *A Preliminary Autopsy on Coffins Beach, Gloucester, Massachusetts*. Vic said he gave the paper because Leland could not attend due to the early birth of his first child. He also participated in the annual meeting of the SHA UNESCO Committee. At this time, Vic was not sure if he would be receiving agency support for this work-related travel.

**B. Bay State Council of Divers**

Victor stated the Bay State Council of Divers (BSC) met on January 18 at the South Shore Neptunes Club House in Quincy. He could not attend, but their focus was on shoreline access issues and building awareness to this problem. Vic said he has seen a preliminary copy of their public service video. They plan to hold an open meeting at the Boston Sea Rovers scuba diving event to build public awareness of this growing problem and engage help of dive community members.

**C. New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center**

Following-up on the earlier discussion regarding the New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center, Victor reported he will be an expert panelist for the ***Unusual Catches Day*** event at the Center on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1-4 PM; it is a Saturday. The Center is located 38 Bethel Street in New Bedford. It is about block from the Whaling Museum. The intent is to get active and retired fishermen to bring artifacts they have pulled up while fishing, their "Treasure from the Deep". Marcie asked if they Center thought it would attract the fishermen. Vic noted the Center has been receiving positive responses since announcing the event. Our panel of maritime archeologists and shipwreck experts will consist of Vic Mastone, Calvin Mires, David Robinson, Arne Carr and John Fish. We will be on hand to examine these artifacts and provide some insights about their age and function. The event is free and open to the public.

**D. Northeast Anthropological Association**

Victor reported he planned to attend the Annual Meeting of the Northeast Anthropological Association on March 3 and 4 at Bridgewater State University. He saw this as an opportunity to meet regional faculty and students, and possibly recruit perspective interns.

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**E. Boston Sea Rovers Annual Underwater Clinic**

Victor informed the Board that the 2017 Boston Sea Rovers Underwater Clinic would be held on March 10-11. This year's venue will be again held at the Double Tree Hotel in Danvers. As with last few years, he plans to have a display at the Massachusetts Environmental Trust table and assist at the Division of Marine Fisheries and Bay State Council of Divers tables.

**F. Cohasset Public Library**

Victor stated he would be giving a lecture at the Cohasset Public Library the night of March 2nd. The topic will be the Board's on-going research on the first Minot's Ledge Lighthouse.

**G. North Shore High School Marine Science Symposium**

Victor reported that he would be participating in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual North Shore High School Marine Sciences Symposium on March 15 at Salem State University. The symposium and workshops were organized by the Massachusetts Marine Educations Association in collaboration with Northeastern University and Salem State University. He plans to lead workshops on mapping shipwreck sites.

**H. Beneath the Sea**

Marcie will be attending Beneath the Sea in Secaucus, New Jersey from March 24, 25, and 26. It will be held at the Meadowlands in New Jersey..

Graham McKay moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 PM. Marcie Bilinski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor T. Mastone  
Director