

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – 29 JANUARY 2009**

MEMBERS PRESENT Marcie Bilinski (Dive Community Representative)
Terry French (Designee of John Warner, State Archivist)
John Hoagland (Dive Community Representative)
Lenny Loparto (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)
Jonathan Patton (Designee of Brona Simon, Executive Director of the
Massachusetts Historical Commission)
Joe Pelczarski (Designee of Deerin Babb-Brott, Director of Coastal Zone
Management)
John Tulik (Designee of Aaron Gross, Director of Environmental Law
Enforcement)
Victor Mastone, Director (Staff for the Board)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brendan Foley (Marine Archaeologist)
Martha King (Director of DCR Division of Waterways)

PROCEEDINGS:

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources was convened by the Director, Victor Mastone at 1:30 PM on 29 January 2009 in the CZM Conference Room at 251 Causeway Street in Boston.

1. MINUTES

A. Minutes 4 December 2008

Victor asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 29 November 2007. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

John Hoagland moved to accept the minutes of the 4 December 2008 public meeting. Jonathan Patton seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Victor reported that he had submitted a grant application to the NPS American Battlefield Protection Program for a planning study of the Battle of Chelsea Creek. The study is to essentially to identify, delineate, and interpret the battlefield which encompasses portions of Chelsea, East Boston, and Revere. The proposal includes funds for research assistants to undertake archival research and prepare GIS maps of battlefield components. It also includes funding for public engagement in the project. He did not expect to hear if the grant was approved for several months.

3. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Board member reports.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS: OUTREACH

A. Society for Historical Archaeology

Victor reported that that he attended the Society for Historical Archaeology's (SHA) 40th Annual Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology held on January 7-11 in Toronto, Ontario. Victor noted that he and Chris Amer of the South Carolina Institute for Archaeology and Anthropology organized and led the Annual Government Maritime Managers' Forum. This year's forum was entitled *Government Maritime Managers' Forum XVI: Never Navigate to Where Birds are Standing*. Approximately twenty-five people representing state, federal, and foreign government programs participated in the forum. In

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addition, Victor participated in the annual meeting of the SHA UNESCO Committee. He observed that 22 nations are now parties to the UNESCO Convention of 2001.

B. Boston Sea Rovers Annual Underwater Clinic

Victor informed the Board that the Boston Sea Rovers is holding its 55th Annual Underwater Clinic on March 7-8th at the Fairmont Copley Hotel in Boston. As it has in past years, the Board will have literature for distribution at the Division of Marine Fisheries booth. Vic said that he planned to attend only one day of the clinic. It is a good opportunity to meet with the various dive clubs and organizations that sponsor booths at the clinic.

5. 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. Tom Mulloy, Henry Lynch and Debra Jackson were in attendance to represent BCMA.

Debra Jackson acted as spokesperson for the group. She stated they had a good year at the site. There was not much surge, which can be an issue with vertigo when working the site. They experienced a lot of visibility, seeing almost the entire pedestal at times. She noted much of the sand build-up had dissipated and many buried pieces which had separated from of main conglomerate were visible again. They saw some pieces of wood. Victor asked them to describe the wood. Tom Mulloy said the fragments were in the conglomerate, but did not look like ship timbers. Debra said they are anxious to get back this season. John Hoagland asked if the pictures in the presentation were taken this year. Debra said some were this year, some past years.

Debra stated they had a great year with their educational outreach program with public schools. We are in our tenth year with some schools. Their program is tied into Massachusetts Department of Education [social science] curriculum. They were very excited that Scituate High School approached them this year. Tom and Hank ran a two-day program for high school seniors for the history department. First, they gave a classroom power-point presentation on the project. It was followed on a second day with students touring the museum with hands-on. The school takes world history and tries to align it with local history, which fits very well with the Forest Queen project. Hank Lynch noted that as part of the tour they showed how they mapped the conglomerate. In addition Debra also reported that she was a guest speaker for a graduate education course at Worcester State College. Places for field trips that tie to the curriculum highlighted project and museum and how it tied to curriculum. They are also looking into after school enrichment program for 3-5th grades the future.

Lenny asked about using students in the lab. Hank said they did reduce one piece as part of the high school program. They found a piece of metal sheathing. Hank noted that they then had the students to record that material on the site plan. Tom said the 3rd grade program participated in a little of that in past. Debra envisioned this being part of the after school program. Vic noted that the main conglomerate is more a jumble of wave mixed material than a discrete site, plus reduction activities has been limited to those pieces which had broken free and separated from the main area.

Hank Lynch expressed the group's thanks to the Scituate Historical Society and the Scituate Selectmen for their support. She also expressed thanks to the assistance they received from David Trubey when he was with the Board.

Marcie Bilinski moved to renew 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. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

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B. Neil M. Good

Victor reported that Neil M. Good had submitted his Reconnaissance Permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations for his site in his East Falmouth/Mashpee. He reminded the Board that they had extended the expiration date of the permit until today due to Board error in providing notice. Mr. Good was in attendance to represent his application.

Mr. Good said he was hoping this might be the year he could get out and survey Waquoit Bay. For the past year, he was building a magnetometer with the assistance of Willy Bayot of Belgium and Richard Gurske of Florida. He noted they are mentioned in his Annual Report. They have successfully assembled a home-built magnetometer. He has much of the unit assembled and is hoping to have it completed by Spring 2009. His costs are round \$500-\$600 thus far. Photographs of his machine are included in the report. Vic said he knew home-built magnetometer have been successfully assembled and used; he recalled an early survey of Mr. Ricardo's permit area was done with a home-built and the results were later verified with a professional unit. Mr. Good mentioned he has done some outreach as well. There was a presentation at the Cotuit Library in July and it was well received.

There were no questions from the Board members.

John Hoagland moved to grant, retroactive to December 4, 2008, renewal of the Reconnaissance Permit (00-002) held by Neil M. 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 Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Mashpee Tribal Council and the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Marcie Bilinski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

C. James M. Karos

Victor reported that James Karos had submitted his Reconnaissance Permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations for his site in Chelsea Creek. He noted that Mr. Karos has asked the Board to consider modifying his permit area to include another unidentified shipwreck north of his current sites. Mr. Karos was in attendance to represent his application.

Mr. Karos reported that he was having some difficulty accessing the site through the Global Oil property over the past year since it was within a maritime security zone. He spoke with the USCG [Sector Boston] about his access problems. They said there should not be any problem as long as he first notifies Coast Guard Command [Sector Boston] and then notifies Global Oil. With this problem overcome, he began creating a site map of the shipwreck site, roughly 140 feet. A large scale site plan was displayed to the Board members. The baseline, roughly 140 feet, is offset from the keel. Jim explained the process of tri-lateration he was using to map the site. He described some of the components. He planned to use grids to get finer detail of the site. He noted he has continued his training with Ray Hayes as well.

Lenny Loparto asked if he had given any thought to vertical measurement. Jim responded he had thought about draping a line over the site. Vic observed that would be a natural next step for developing the site plan.

Mr. Karos described the circumstances of finding the new site. Victor noted the site has been tentatively listed as the Railroad Avenue Shipwreck site in the Board's inventory. Jim asked if the Board would consider expanding his permit area to include this site. Victor noted he could not identify the site on any ortho-photographs. Discussion turned to the distance between the original sites to the new site. It was the sense of the Board to allow the permittee and Board's staff to finalize the amended permit boundaries.

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Terry French took the opportunity to thank Jim for his efforts to gain access to the site and continue his work. John Hoagland wanted to acknowledge the growth and progress in Jim's work over the past few years. Jim thanked the Board for its support.

John Hoagland moved to renew Reconnaissance Permit (06-001) held by James M. Karos for his Chelsea Creek site (Revere/Boston) with all standard conditions in effect and the further condition that the permittee may collect wood samples under appropriate supervision for dendrochronological purposes. Marcie Bilinski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Mr. Karos also donated a small cannon ball to the Board for use in its teaching program. He noted he had not collected this object, but rather purchased it.

D. Nipmuc Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Victor reported that he was planning some additional field research in support of the project. He had been working with two volunteer divers, Bob Michelson and Michael Prange, to photo-document the mounds in Lake Quinsigamond. They are planning of an ice dive for February 16; they anticipated greater site visibility. Victor said he was also working with Professor Allen Gontz and one of honor students. They would conduct a Ground Penetrating Radar survey to reconstruct the historic shoreline on February 6. The project director, Cheryl Stedtler will be present at both times.

6. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

Marcie Bilinski moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:13 PM. Terry French seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor T. Mastone
Director