

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
BOARD OF UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING – 31 May 2018**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anthony Abdal-Khabir, Deputy Director (Designee of James McGinn, Director of Environmental Law Enforcement)  
Rick Cunio (Designee, Gregory Robbins, Director of DCR Division of Waterways)  
John Warner (State Archivist)  
Dan Sampson (Designee of Bruce Carlisle, Director of Coastal Zone Management)  
Nadia Waski (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)  
Victor Mastone, Director (Staff for the Board)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Graham McKay (Marine Archaeologist)  
Gary Murad (Dive Community Representative)  
Jonathan Patton (Designee of Brona Simon, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission)  
Vacant (Dive Community Representative)

**PROCEEDINGS:**

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources was convened by the Director, Victor Mastone at 1:35 PM on 31 May 2018 in the CZM Conference Room at 251 Causeway Street in Boston.

Vic M introduced Rick Cunio who would be representing DCR Division of Waterways at today's meeting.

**1. MINUTES**

**A. Minutes of 29 March 2018**

Vic M asked the Board if there were any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on 29 March 2018. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to accept the minutes of the 29 March 2018 public meeting. Rick Cunio seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Change in Meeting Schedule**

Vic M stated the Board had an informal email discussion regarding cancelling its meeting previously scheduled for 27 September 2018 due to scheduling conflicts. Vic M noted that after today's meeting, the next scheduled Board meeting would then be 25 October 2018. John asked if this action required a formal vote. The Board members concurred.

Dan Sampson moved cancel the Board's regular meeting scheduled on the 27 September 2018 and replace it with a meeting on 25 October 2018. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Vic M noted that while the Board is typically in recess for the months of June, July and August, this does not preclude holding special meetings should the need arise during those months.

**Change in the order of Business**

Vic M stated that as chair he would be changing the order of business at this point and move directly to New Business followed by Old Business. He explained he was doing this to deal with those

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action items that required a vote by Board today and could not be dealt with under the Director's delegated authority.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Robert Wells - Reconnaissance Permit – Weymouth**

Vic M reported that the Board had received a complete reconnaissance permit application from Robert Wells for an area in Weymouth. Vic M also took this opportunity to acknowledge the overall quality of this application. Robert Wells was in attendance to represent the application.

Mr. Wells stated that he has been working on this site for a while. He appreciated the Board's review of his application. As he was not familiar with the field, he is looking for any advice and suggestions the Board might have for him.

John suggested the Board members be introduced to Mr. Wells. He noted that from sitting on a number of boards it is always good for those who are presenting to know who they are presenting to. Vic M noted that while Mr. Wells had attended their March meeting, he might not know everyone. Vic M then individually introduced the Board members to Mr. Wells.

Nadia stated she and Jonathan Patton of the MHC, who was not in attendance today, had some comments on the application. She said they would like to see a more detailed and updated field methodology from what was included in "What you plan to do" section of the application. She asked if he was working with anyone with this expertise, such as those mentioned in his application. He said he had spoken with Dr. Calvin Mire and archaeologists at UMass-Amherst's Archaeological Services. Nadia suggested he speak with them again as they have more experience on how to do this. She also noted that no excavation could take place under a reconnaissance permit. He acknowledged he was aware of that. Vic said both items could be made special conditions of the permit.

Anthony asked if this area had been archaeologically surveyed prior to Mr. Wells beginning his research. Vic M said not to his knowledge and that he could find any site information in the Board's or MHC's files in the vicinity. He noted it was not near the proposed munitions remediation in Weymouth or Hingham. Vic M further noted they would sit down and work out a proper, latitude and longitude, boundaries on water side.

Nadia Waski moved to grant Reconnaissance Permit No. 18-001 to Robert Wells for his Weymouth site with all standard conditions in effect, and the further conditions that the permittee submit a more detailed field methodology plan and that no excavation take place under this permit. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Mr. Wells asked if he needed to submit his update methodology before continuing fieldwork. Vic M said that would be appropriate.

Mr. Wells noted he was concerned about security and environmental impacts being experienced along the South Shore. He said this was from possible looting and potential storm damage. Vic M responded there is not much the Board can do about the effects of nature as we do not have resources to address that and generally speaking the Board's policy has been to let nature take its course unless the site was of established significance under significant immediate danger.

On the vandalism side, Vic M thought it might be premature to worry. He turned to Anthony to address this further. Anthony said there is nothing to mobilize at this time and suggested he not publicize his project - the fewer who know the better. Mr. Wells said that has been his approach. Anthony further noted the site may not have been visible prior and that natural forces may have recently uncovered it. Vic M added these forces could equally act to rebury it.

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**B. Policy Guidance on Archaeological Investigations and Related Surveys Standards for the Discovery of Underwater Archaeological Resources**

Vic M reported he had distributed for Board review a draft policy guidance document for archaeological investigations and related survey standards for the discovery of underwater archaeological resources in Massachusetts state waters. He had been developing this document, along with input from past interns, staff and other professionals, over the past several years. This policy would be directed chiefly to special use permits and projects that are in the design and/or construction phase to assure identification of cultural resources in order to avoid potential adverse effect on resources within project impact areas. He noted it was very similar to those standards put forth by the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. The Board has been operating successfully under this policy in draft form for several years.

Vic M noted that he had received some very useful comments and revisions from Jonathan Patton. These included better language regarding coordinating and consulting with Board and MHC, the possible need for State Archaeologist's Permit in intertidal waters, and review sites files. He asked that the language be added that media must include date/time/orientation/GPS coordinates for reference to field maps, survey track lines, and plans for ROVs, grab samples and vibracores surveys, and this data be reviewed by a qualified archaeologist. Vic M said he has incorporated these recommendations.

Dan asked if the Board would like to have someone from USGS review the technical aspects. Vic M said that many of our parameter had been developed by Richard Sullivan who had worked at WHOI and USGS. Vic M noted the standards are nearly the same as BOEM.

John stated he agreed that we not include references to specific archives or repositories. It is not useful to list some and not others. Vic M noted he was concerned that proponents might look at a list narrowly to the point of only going to listed facilities.

Discussion turned to inclusion of qualifications for archaeologists. Vic M noted the Board's regulations have a definition and the Secretary of Interior has standards. These are similar, but not identical with the Board's being slightly more relaxed. John suggested we might add these as a footnote, with hyper-link to those at the end of the policy.

John Warner moved to adopt *Policy Guidance on Archaeological Investigation and Related Survey Standards for the Discovery of Underwater Archaeological Resources* as amended. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Vic M noted he was working on two additional draft policies, the *Preparation and Contents of Reports on Archaeological Investigations in Massachusetts Waters* and *Discovery of Unexploded Ordinance and Munitions*. The report policy is meant to complement and expand upon the Board's specific regulation, 312 CMR 2.09(3) Reporting. It is not a complete draft at his time. The policy guidance for unexploded ordinance follows established federal advice. He would like a quality check of from law enforcement before placing it before the Board. Anthony said to forward the draft to him. Vic M hopes to have both completed before he retires.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates**

Vic M reported that the R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates had submitted a Special Use Permit application for the underwater remote sensing and, archaeological reconnaissance survey and documentation related to the Bay State Wind Project in Fall River, Falmouth and Somerset. Steve Schmidt serves as Project Archaeologist. As stated in the application, they planned to undertake underwater remote sensing, archaeological reconnaissance survey and documentation related to the Bay State Wind Project. He noted the permittee had also submitted a revised scope of work for an expanded permit area to include Vineyard Sound and Falmouth. Victor stated that he provisionally approved this

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modification on May 11, 2018. The original permit was provisionally granted on March 31, 2017 and formally issued by the Board on May 25, 2017. Vic M stated the Board should first act on the modification request and then the renewal request.

Dan Sampson moved to approve the revised work plan and modified permit area for Special Use Permit No. 17-001 issued to R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., in Fall River, Falmouth and Somerset for the area as specified in the application as amended with all standard conditions in effect and the further condition R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates submit its amended research design and methodology to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for review. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to renew Special Use Permit No. 17-001 granted to R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., in Fall River, Falmouth and Somerset for the area as specified in the application as amended with all standard conditions in effect and the further condition R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates submit its research design and methodology to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for review. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**B. Nipmuc Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office**

Vic M reported that the permit held by the Nipmuc National – Tribal Historic Preservation Office is up for renewal at today's meeting. The renewal application and Annual Report have been submitted in accordance with the Board's regulations. Vic M stated he wanted to take this opportunity to again compliment them on the excellent quality of their report.

Vic M stated the Project Director, Cheryl Stedtler, could not in attendance to represent the application due to a medical emergency at his job. She said that she is trying to coordinate with the Project Archaeologist, David Robinson, for dives and ROV surveys of the permit area this summer. Anthony observed it had been a while since they conducted extensive field work. Vic M said it has been difficult to coordinate and deliver as much of this is volunteer expertise and services.

Vic M noted that he also had an unpaid Board research associate, Mary Vigliotti, assisting with local research. She has in MA in museum studies and is looking to broaden her background. Mary is working to expand upon earlier archival research conducted by Cheryl.

Dan Sampson moved to renew the Reconnaissance Permit (01-001) held by the Nipmuc Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office for its Worcester/Shrewsbury site with all standard conditions in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**C. North Atlantic Dive Expeditions**

Vic M reported that the permit held by the North Atlantic Dive Expeditions is up for renewal at today's meeting. The renewal application and Annual Reports have been submitted in accordance with the Board's regulations. The Project Director, Heather Knowles, was not in attendance. Vic M stated he wanted to take this opportunity to again compliment them on the excellent quality of their application and report. Vic M said last year's weather kept them off site. John observed the extreme depth of the site. There was no further discussion.

John Warner moved to grant renewal of Reconnaissance permit No. 17-004 to North Atlantic Dive Expeditions with all standard conditions in effect. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**D. Restoration Project**

Vic M reported that Restoration Project, Inc., had submitted its reconnaissance permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. Eloise Newell, Director of Restoration Project, Inc., was not present at this meeting.

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The lack of on-site activity was noted by several Board members. John observed that the sounding board of a piano is fairly large. Vic M stated they had detected a number of magnetic targets, but the thickness of loose organic bottom sediments, in places over than eight feet thick, makes examination very difficult. There was no further discussion

John Warner moved to grant renewal of Reconnaissance Permit (10-001) held by the Restoration Project, Inc. for its Willis Pond site with all standard conditions in effect. Anthony Abdal-Khabir seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**E. Victor Ricardo**

Vic M reported that the reconnaissance permit held by Victor Ricardo is up for renewal at today's meeting. Mr. Ricardo had submitted his permit renewal application and Annual Report in accordance with the Board's regulations. He had recently spoken with Mr. Ricardo who could not be in attendance to represent his application today due to illness and was in the VA hospital at that time. Mr. Ricardo asked the Board to consider renewing his permit.

Vic M noted the southern area of the permit area will be subjected to near shore sand disposal. Rick asked what he was looking for. Vic M said it was a vessel from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Anthony asked if this was the permit where they recovered munitions. Vic said it was. Anthony described that situation which resulted in intensive munitions survey of the beach area by ATF, Massachusetts and New Hampshire State Police. They concern was what he had stored at home and possible on the beach. John asked what was there. Anthony said a shore battery. Anthony said that Mr. Ricardo has been educated, advised and corrected. There was no further discussion.

Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to grant renewal of the Reconnaissance Permit (94-001) held by Victor Ricardo for his Salisbury site with all standard conditions in effect and the further conditions that Mr. Ricardo coordinate with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) facility (Salisbury Beach State Reservation) staff and the DCR Office of Historic Resources Archaeologist for any on site activities; the DCR staff determine when activities on site take place; no excavation activities take place under this permit; and that no cultural materials leave the boundaries of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts except with the prior written approval of the Board. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Vic M noted that as a result of the Board cancelling its meeting scheduled for 27 September 2018 and rescheduling that meeting for 25 October 2018, the Board would need to extend the expiration date for permits expiring in September.

**F. Alexander Bezkorovainy**

Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to extend the expiration date for Excavation Permit No. 06-002 held by Alexander Bezkorovainy for his Salem Sound site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**G. David S. Robinson and Associates**

Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 17-007 held by David S. Robinson and Associates, Inc., for their Boston Harbor site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**H. Gary Esper**

Mr. Esper has two permit that need to be extended:

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1. Nadia Waski moved to extend the expiration date for Excavation Permit No. 12-005 held by Gary Esper for his Eastham/Wellfleet site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.
2. Dan Sampson moved to extend the expiration date for Reconnaissance Permit No. 12-006 held by Gary Esper for his Eastham site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. Anthony Abdal-Khabir seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**I. Public Archaeology Lab**

The Public Archaeology Lab has five special use permits that need to be extended:

1. Nadia Waski moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 16-003 held by the Public Archaeology Lab for the New Bedford Superfund Site project in Acushnet and Fairhaven until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.
2. Dan Sampson moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 17-005 held by the Public Archaeology Lab for its Chelmsford site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.
3. Anthony Abdal-Khabir moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 17-006 held by the Public Archaeology Lab for its East Bridgewater site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.
4. Nadia Waski moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 17-008 held by the Public Archaeology Lab for its Sturbridge site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.
5. John Warner moved to extend the expiration date for Special Use Permit No. 17-009 held by the Public Archaeology Lab for its Northampton site until 25 October 2018 with all existing standard and special conditions remaining in effect. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

**Change in the order of Business**

Vic M 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** (continued)

**B. Site Visits**

Vic M reported he had been contacted by several people to investigate inter-tidal finds.

He made two visits to White Beach in Manchester. On April 11, he met with an informant and staff from the Manchester Historical Museum. He examined several stone objects, but it was indeterminate whether or not they were man-made lithics or modified by nature. He returned on April 20 for a site examination with the same group, plus Gloucester historian Jude Seminara. They observed a large exposed clay bank, over 80 meters in length. It had remnants of tree trunks and roots exposed in it. He believe it to be a previously drowned marsh where the front beach has eroded away.

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Vic M stated he had received a report of a possible shipwreck becoming exposed on Long Beach in Gloucester. He visited the area on April 18, but vessel remains or other wooden objects were no longer visible.

On April 24, he went to Salisbury Beach to meet with Bill Sargent and Sandy Tilton who had reported observing horseshoe imprints in peat on the beach toward the New Hampshire border. The peat was actually another large section of exposed clay, much longer and thicker than that observed in Manchester. Horseshoe prints were indeed present as was some paw prints and possible human boot prints. Some metal debris was observed, but most resemble highly corroded modern fence stakes. There was some root material and possible tree stumps. Mr. Sargent has speculated this may be the remnant of an old cranberry bog. Such features are currently present in the dunes behind Cranes Beach in nearby Ipswich.

**C. Healthy Harbors**

On May 22, Vic M participated in meeting to discuss inclusion of a shipwreck documentation program as part of the Healthy Harbors Summer Camp in July. The camp is a joint program of Essex National Heritage Area, Salem Sound Coastwatch, and Leap4Education. On July 18, the campers will examine the remains of the *City of Rockland* on Little Misery Island with the Salem State University Field School. On July 26, a different group of campers will examine an unknown modern shipwreck at Winter Island in Salem.

**4. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

There were no Board member reports.

**5. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

**A. Metropolitan Yacht Club**

Vic M reported that he gave a lecture at the monthly meeting of the Metropolitan Yacht Club in Braintree on Wednesday, April 4. The lecture was a short version of "*Maritime Archaeology: Revealing Massachusetts' Hidden History.*"

**B. Bridgewater State University and Nautical Archaeology Society**

Vic M reported that working with Dr. Calvin Mires of Bridgewater State University they gave the Nautical Archaeology Society's workshop entitled, *Introduction to Maritime Archaeology*, on April 21 - 22. The classroom workshop was held at the Robbins Museum of Archaeology in Middleborough and was co-hosted by the Massachusetts Archaeological Society. They also conducted field training on the *City of Taunton* site in Somerset. It was open to the public and seven participants successfully completed the workshop and received their certificates. Such workshops are intended to be a starting point for training citizen scientist volunteers.

**C. Heritage Assisted Living**

Vic M reported he gave a presentation to the Heritage Assisted Living in Framingham on April 25 at 1 PM. The presentation title was "*Hidden History: Underwater Archaeology in Massachusetts.*"

**C. Maria Hastings Elementary School**

Vic M reported he gave a hands-on program to English Language Learning 5<sup>th</sup> grade class at Maria Hastings Elementary School in Lexington on April 27. The program included handling artifacts from shipwrecks and writing underwater.

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**E. Conference on New England Archaeology**

Vic M reported that the annual Conference on New England Archaeology (CNEA) was held on Saturday, May 12, 2018, at the University of Connecticut at Storrs. This year's theme was ancient Native American and historic period farmsteads in New England. Vic M reminded the Board that he was an elected member of CNEA's Steering Committee. Unfortunately, he could not attend the conference.

**F. Lynnfield Senior Center**

Vic M reported he gave a presentation to the Lynnfield Senior Center during the day on May 15, 2018. The presentation title was "*Drift Wood, Stone Circles, Three Canoes, a Lost lighthouse and a Piano: Stories of Collaboration and Engaging the Public*".

**G. Retired Educators Association of Massachusetts**

Vic M reported that he gave a presentation to the Retired Educators Association of Massachusetts (REAM) at their semi-annual meeting during the day on May 17, 2018. The presentation was entitled, "*Maritime Archaeology: Revealing Massachusetts Hidden History*".

**H. Friends of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to the Friends of the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on June 4, 2018. The presentation will "*Nature and Maritime Archaeology: Can revealing Massachusetts hidden history be used to understand sea level rise and global warming?*"

**I. Carmel Terrace**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to Carmel Terrace Assisted Living in Framingham on June 7, 2018. The presentation is entitled, "*Hidden Heritage: Underwater Archaeology in Massachusetts*."

**J. Salem State University Summer Institute - Maritime Archaeology of the North Shore**

Vic M reported he will again be co-leading a SSU Summer Institute (workshop) during the week of July 16-20, 2018 with Dr. Calvin Mires and Captain Laurel Seaborn, both of the Seafaring Education and Maritime Archaeological Heritage Program. Vic M noted he will use vacation leave to teach the class. Participants will receive three undergraduate credit hours from Salem State University (SSU) and a certificate from the Nautical Archaeology Society. This course will use one or two shipwreck sites on the North Shore with beach access. It is intended to be a starting point for training citizen scientist volunteers. Several students from previous field schools have been assisting Vic M with field investigations and outreach events.

**K. Southeast Chapter, Massachusetts Archaeological Society**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to Southeast Chapter, Massachusetts Archaeological Society in Middleborough on September 12, 2018. He will be presenting on the dugout canoes in Lake Quinsigamond (Worcester/Shrewsbury), "*Underwater Archaeology: 17<sup>th</sup> Century Nipmuc Mishoonash in Lake Quinsigamond*".

**J. United Divers of Central Massachusetts**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to the United Divers of Central Mass in Fitchburg September 20 (rescheduled from April 19).. Topic has not been determined.

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**K. International Fields of Conflict Conference**

Vic M reported that he will be participating in the 2018 International Fields of Conflict Conference on September 27-29, 2018. He will be giving a presentation on the Battle of Chelsea Creek, 1775.

**L. Center Club of the North Shore**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to the Center Club of the North Shore on October 10, 2018 in Lynnfield. Topic has not been determined.

**M. Manchester Historical Museum**

Vic M reported he will give a presentation to the Manchester (MA) Historical Museum on October 17, 2018. The presentation will be "*Hidden History: Underwater Archaeology in Massachusetts*".

John Warner moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:29 PM. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous vote in favor. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor T. Mastone  
Director