MEMBERS PRESENT (determined by roll call):

Michael Driscoll (Designee, Director of DCR Division of Waterways)
Mark McClanan (Dive Community Representative)
Graham McKay (Marine Archaeologist)
Jonathan Patton (Designee of Brona Simon, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Historical Commission)
Dan Sampson (Designee of Lisa Berry Engler, Director of Coastal Zone Management)
John Warner (State Archivist)
Nadia Waski (Designee of Brona Simon, State Archaeologist)

David Robinson, Director (Staff for the Board)

MEMBERS ABSENT (determined by roll call):

Jack Chapin (Designee of the Director of Environmental Law Enforcement)
Gary Murad (Dive Community Representative)

PROCEEDINGS:

The public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources (BUAR) was convened via video-conference by BUAR Director, David Robinson (Dave R), with MassBays Executive Director, Pam DiBona, serving as co-host of, and providing technical support for, the video-conference meeting, at 12:37 PM on May 28, 2020.

Dave R stated that the purpose of the regularly-scheduled public meeting of the BUAR was to conduct the Board’s business that requires the involvement of the full board.

Items on the agenda included:

• Approval of the January 30, 2020 Board meeting’s minutes
• Director’s report
• Board Member reports
• Summary of the Board’s Public Engagement Activities
• Old Business - involving the review and consideration for approval of BUAR permit renewals, modifications, and administrative extensions, and
• New Business - consisting of the review and consideration for approval of new BUAR permits.

Dave R noted that the meeting was the first-ever video-conference public meeting of the BUAR in its 47-year history and explained that the video-conference format was necessitated by Governor Baker’s March 10, 2020 Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth in response to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. This state of emergency has led to the physical closure of state offices, including those of the BUAR and its administrative host, the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), where BUAR’s in-person public meetings are normally held. Non-emergency executive branch employees have been directed to work remotely and where possible to use available telecommunications technology to conduct agency business activities normally done in person.

Dave R explained that on March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies like the BUAR to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing. The Executive Order relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body through adequate, alternative means. "Adequate, alternative means" may include, without limitation, providing public access
through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body in real time. In addition, all members of a public body may participate in a meeting remotely and the Open Meeting Law’s requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at the meeting location is suspended.

Dave R noted that these and all other provisions of the Open Meeting Law, such as the requirements regarding posting notice of meetings and creating and maintaining accurate meeting minutes, as well as the limited, enumerated purposes for holding an executive session, remain in effect and are being followed by the BUAR.

Dave R reported that BUAR staff have been working remotely since March 16, 2020 with the only trips into the office since then being two, one-hour in-office visits to copy digital files and pick up mail. All BUAR business and communications are currently being conducted primarily via email. Email communications have been supplemented by on-line video-conferencing, limited phone calls, US Postal Service mailings, and weekly transmittals of BUAR mail from CZM’s offices to BUAR’s remote work location. It was as a consequence of the COVID-19 outbreak and the Commonwealth’s State of Emergency that the March 26, 2020 public meeting of the BUAR had to be cancelled. Expiring BUAR permits that were to be considered for renewal during the March 26, 2020 meeting were administratively extended by Dave R as the BUAR’s Director and included as part of this meeting’s Old Business.

Dave R then introduced Pam DiBona, welcomed all of the Board members, permittees, and members of the public to the video-conference, and reviewed video-conferencing “ground-rules” for the meeting. Dave R informed the Board members that all items being voted on by the board would be done by roll-call vote, as required for a remote-access video-conference meeting.

1. MINUTES

A. Minutes of January 30, 2020

Dave R asked the Board if they had any comments or corrections to the minutes of the public meeting held on January 30, 2020. There were no comments or corrections to the minutes.

Dan Sampson moved to accept the minutes of the January 30, 2020 public meeting. John Warner seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

2. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A. Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan

Dave R reported that between February and May 2020, BUAR has continued its work with CZM on the most recent updating of the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan (OMP). CZM’s Prassede Vella, Dave R’s co-lead on the OMP’s Cultural Heritage and Recreational Uses Work Group, held a teleconference with the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary’s Deputy Superintendent, Ben Cowie-Haskell, on February 7, 2020 to discuss and get the Sanctuary’s input on updated information being considered for the revised OMP. Mr. Cowie-Haskell reported that the Sanctuary would be releasing its Sanctuary Condition Report to the public soon and that he thought it would be of interest to CZM and the BUAR. Mr. Cowie-Haskell said that one of the more interesting elements of the report explores the issue of “connectivity” between the Sanctuary’s diverse resources, human activities within the sanctuary, and the positive and negative impacts associated with those activities. Dave R noted that of particular relevance to the BUAR is the Sanctuary’s consideration of making public the locations of historically significant shipwrecks within the Sanctuary to reduce the chances of them being accidentally damaged by mobile commercial fishing gear strikes and entanglements, which the Sanctuary has identified as a serious risk to shipwreck resources. To assist the Sanctuary in developing an avoidance policy for these
shipwrecks, BUAR provided Mr. Cowie-Haskell with a copy of its Policy Guidance for Establishing Shipwreck and Underwater Resource Avoidance Protection Plans. This policy guidance is also publicly available on the BUAR website. In summary, BUAR’s policy guidance recommends avoidance buffers from 100 to 1,000 ft around archaeological deposits whose extent has been established through marine remote sensing survey. The nature of the archaeological site, its environmental context, and the anticipated potential impacts to it are all considerations in the BUAR’s determination of buffer zone distances. Dave R reported that the Cultural Heritage and Recreational Work Group’s recommended updates to the 2020 OMP were presented to the OMP Science Advisory Council on May 26, 2020, and that work on the OMP draft review document and draft technical report will be ongoing through the summer with public comment and agency review of these drafts scheduled for the fall of 2020.

B. Fieldwork

Saqush Head, Plymouth – Dave R reported that on February 28 2020, BUAR accompanied Plymouth Assistant Harbor Master, Michael Dawley, on a site visit out to Saquish Head, in Plymouth, to examine, measure, and photo-document the remains of a wooden vessel that had become exposed on the beach following a winter storm. Local residents informed BUAR that the wreck had been visible periodically for more than 50 years. Exposed vessel remains consisted of roughly half of the partially preserved bottom of the hull. These remains measured approximately 30 feet in length. Deadwood, frames, and hull planking were visible. The hull was fastened with treenails and, based on iron-stains in the wood and fastener hole shapes, iron bolts, spikes, and nails were also used. The age and identity of the vessel remain presently unknown.

C. BUAR-CZM-DMF Diving MOA

Dave R reported that on April 7, 2020, BUAR and CZM executed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) to conduct BUAR and CZM scientific diving operations under the auspices of the DMF’s Scientific Diving Program. Organized in 1972, the DMF’s diving program ensures that all scientific diving is conducted in a manner that maximizes the protection of scientific divers from accidental injury and/or illness, and sets forth standards for training and certification. The DMF standards conform to the minimal standards of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). AAUS is recognized by OSHA as the scientific diving standard-setting organization in the US. On March 12, 2020, BUAR staff completed a requisite course in Diving First Aid for Professional Divers taught by the DMF Diving Safety Officer, Vin Malkoski. Completion of diving physicals, confirmation of diving equipment annual servicing, and check-out dive(s) with the DMF Diving Safety Officer are the next steps towards BUAR’s staff being authorized to conduct archaeological diving operations for the Commonwealth.

D. DMF Aquaculture Permitting Website

BUAR is currently assisting the DMF Habitat Program Manager, Dr. Kathryn Ford, by providing her with BUAR-related content for an aquaculture permitting website that DMF is developing. DMF hopes to have the website on-line and open it to the public in late June. The website will have a section on MEPA review that will include sections on CZM federal consistency and information on BUAR’s review process for proposed aquaculture projects.

3. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Graham McKay reported that he recently visited the Crane Beach wreck site of the Ada K. Damon, and that Lowell’s Boat Shop had posted a Facebook Live video of the visit on its Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=336528787326300. Mr. McKay noted that the wreck was the most exposed he has ever seen it. He observed that the beach sand in which the wreckage is embedded is 2 to 3 feet lower than usual. Mr. McKay recommended BUAR staff visit the site and noted his concern that the site is in danger of being disturbed by beachgoers.
Nadia Waski reported that the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) will start accepting proposals next month (June) for remote-access events for the 2020 celebration of Massachusetts Archaeology Month in October.

***Change in the Order of Business
Because the Board had a VERY full agenda for the meeting, David R, as chair of the meeting, changed the order of business and moved directly to Old Business.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Bassings Cove Maritime Association

Dave R reported that the Bassings Cove Maritime Association (BCMA) had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. BCMA’s Debra Jackson was in attendance to represent the permit application. She reported that 2019 had been a relatively quiet year of work on the site, but that BCMA had run a number of community outreach programs with local schools. There was no further discussion.

Dan Sampson moved to renew, retroactive to January 31, 2020, Excavation Permit (91-001) held by the Bassings Cove Maritime Association for their Scituate site in Scituate with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Jonathan Patton seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

B. Gray & Pape, Inc.

Dave R. reported that Gray & Pape, Inc. had submitted a modification request application to their scope-of-work for their existing Special Use Reconnaissance Permit (17-003) for the Vineyard Wind Project Area in Barnstable, Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket, and Yarmouth. Specifically, the modification to the scope of work would involve acquisition of supplemental geophysical and geotechnical data along the margins of the previously surveyed corridor, effectively expanding the current width of the surveyed corridor with additional data coverage deemed necessary for planning purposes by Vineyard Wind. In their modification request, Gray & Pape, Inc. stated that this additional survey would be conducted in conformance with BUAR’s policy guidance for marine archaeological surveys. Gray & Pape, Inc.’s Principal Investigator, Kimberly Smith, and Maritime Services Practice Leader, Dr. Amanda Evans, were in attendance to represent the scope-of-work modification request. Ms. Smith stated that the modified survey area was an expansion of Vineyard Wind’s 501 Lease Block area’s export cable route survey corridor. The requested modification and expansion are intended to provide additional survey coverage of a wider project corridor that will accommodate anticipated cable route realignments and installation-vessel anchoring impact areas. Dave R asked for an approximate schedule for when the additional survey work would be completed and when BUAR would be getting the report from Gray & Pape, Inc. Ms. Smith responded that the additional field survey work was originally scheduled to begin in July, but, because of the COVID-19 outbreak, the survey work was now pushed off until the Fall of 2020 with the report submittal timeframe sometime in early 2021. Jonathan Patton asked for clarification regarding the integration of the North and South elements of the Vineyard Wind project and whether previous survey and research would be integrated with the new work? Ms. Smith responded that all research will be correlated and asked if MHC had received Gray & Pape, Inc.’s PNF for the new work? Jonathan Patton responded that MHC had received a PNF, but for the terrestrial aspect of the Vineyard South project. Jonathan Patton then asked how Gray & Pape, Inc. planned to provide archaeological survey coverage of the intertidal area of the project corridor? Ms. Smith responded that the intertidal area would be the responsibility of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL), who are Vineyard Wind’s terrestrial archaeology consultant. Jonathan Patton requested that Gray & Pape, Inc. coordinate with the PAL to ensure that their surveys, methodologies, and results for the intertidal area were integrated in a manner that would be consistent with previous MHC comments on the project. Kim Smith said that Gray & Pape would coordinate with PAL There was no further discussion.
Jonathan Patton moved to approve Gray & Pape, Inc’s modified scope of work to their existing Special Use Permit (17-003) for the Vineyard Wind Project Area to include the expanded area specified in the modification in Barnstable, Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket, and Yarmouth with all the standard and special conditions in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

C. Neil Good

Dave R stated that Neil Good’s Reconnaissance Permit (19-002) was up for renewal, and that Mr. Good had not submitted his renewal application and annual report or otherwise communicated with Board regarding his permit’s renewal. Dave R noted that it has been the Board’s practice to grant up to two extensions under these circumstances, and that this would be the first extension. Mr. Good was not in attendance to represent his permit application. There was no further discussion,

Michael Driscoll moved to extend the expiration date of Neil Good’s Reconnaissance Permit (19-002) for the Waquoit Bay Site in Falmouth and Mashpee with all the standard and special conditions in effect until the next meeting of the Board scheduled for September 24, 2020. Dan Sampson seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

D. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.

Dave R reported that R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s Special Use Permit (17-001) for the Bay State Wind Project was up for renewal, and that R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s Nautical Archaeology Division Vice President, Owen Wright, and Senior Nautical Archaeologist, Steven Schmidt, were in attendance to represent R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s permit renewal application. There was no further discussion.

Graham McKay moved to renew R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s Special Use Permit (17-001) for the Bay State Wind Project Area in Falmouth and Somerset with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

E. Raymond L. Hayes

Dave R. reported that Raymond L. Hayes’s Reconnaissance Permit (07-001) was up for renewal today and that Dr. Hayes had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. Dr. Hayes was not in attendance to represent his permit renewal application. There was no further discussion.

Michael Driscoll moved to renew, retroactive to March 29, 2020, Reconnaissance Permit (07-001) held by Raymond L. Hayes for the Great Harbor site in Woods Hole with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Graham McKay seconded. Unanimous in favor by a roll-call vote. So voted.

F. James M. Karos

Dave R. reported that James M. Karos’s Reconnaissance Permit (06-001) was up for renewal and that Mr. Karos had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. Mr. Karos was not in attendance to represent his permit renewal application. There was no further discussion.

Dan Sampson moved to renew, retroactive to January 31, 2020, Reconnaissance Permit (06-001) held by James M. Karos for the Chelsea Creek site in Boston, Chelsea and Revere with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Michael Driscoll seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.
G.  Nipmuc Nation

Dave R reported that Nipmuc Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office’s (THPO) Reconnaissance Permit (01-001) was up for renewal, and that Project Director, Cheryl Stedtler, had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. The Board complimented Nipmuc Nation for submitting a high-quality application. Although a project archaeologist is not required for a reconnaissance permit, unless recovery of artifacts is planned, there remains a vacancy in that role previously served by Dave R prior to his employment with the BUAR. To bridge this vacancy, retired BUAR Director, Victor Mastone, has offered to serve in the interim as the project’s archaeological advisor. Ms. Stedtler was in attendance to represent the Nipmuc Nation THPO’s permit renewal application. She reported that the past year had been a relatively quiet one for the project without Dave R’s involvement. Ms. Stedtler accepted Vic Mastone’s offer to serve as the project’s interim archaeological advisor, and stated she would coordinate with him in the near future. There was no further discussion.

Michael Driscoll moved to renew Reconnaissance Permit (01-001) held by the Nipmuc Nation THPO for the Lake Quinsigamond Site in Worcester and Shrewsbury with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

H.  North Atlantic Dive Expeditions – Heather Knowles

Dave R stated that North Atlantic Dive Expeditions – Heather Knowles’s Reconnaissance Permit (17-004) was up for renewal, and that Ms. Knowles – North Atlantic Dive Expeditions had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. The Board noted that both the application and report were of the highest quality. Ms. Knowles was not in attendance to represent her permit renewal application. There was no further discussion.

Graham McKay moved to renew Reconnaissance Permit (17-004) held by North Atlantic Dive Expeditions – Heather Knowles for the Gloucester Site in Gloucester with all the standard and special conditions in effect. John Warner seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

I.  Victor Ricardo

Dave R reported that Victor Ricardo’s Reconnaissance Permit (94-001) was up for renewal and that Mr. Ricardo had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the Board’s regulations. Mr. Ricardo was in attendance to represent his permit renewal application, although experienced technical difficulties with the video-conferencing platform during the meeting that prevented him from speaking about the previous and planned work at his permit site. There was no further discussion.

Michael Driscoll moved to renew Reconnaissance Permit (94-001) held by Victor Ricardo for the Salisbury Site in Salisbury with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Special conditions in effect include the requirements that Mr. Ricardo: coordinate with the Department of Conservation Resources (DCR) facility (Salisbury State Beach Reservation) staff and with the DCR State Parks Archaeologist (Ellen Berkland) for any on-site activities; 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 BUAR. Graham McKay seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

J.  Nicholas Snyder

Dave R stated that Nicholas Snyder’s Excavation Permit (11-002) was up for renewal. Mr. Snyder had not submitted his renewal application and annual report; however, Mr. Snyder’s project associate, Gary Esper had communicated with the BUAR staff regarding this permit’s renewal and requested an extension on behalf of Mr. Snyder. As noted above, it has been the Board’s practice to grant up to two extensions under these circumstances; this would be the first extension. Neither Mr. Snyder nor Mr. Esper were in attendance to represent this permit extension request. There was no further discussion.
Dan Sampson moved to extend the expiration date of J. Nicholas Snyer’s Excavation Permit (11-002) for the Gloucester Site in Gloucester with all the standard and special conditions in effect until the next meeting of the Board scheduled for September 24, 2020. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

K. Robert Wells

Dave R reported that Robert Wells’s Reconnaissance Permit (18-001) was up for renewal, and that while Mr. Wells had submitted a renewal application in accordance with the BUAR’s regulations, he had not submitted the more detailed field plan that was a condition of the BUAR’s approval of the original permit and of the permit’s renewal last year. Mr. Wells was in attendance to represent his permit renewal application. Mr. Wells stated that his activity to date in his permit area was limited to monitoring and protecting the site and trying to educate the public about its history and significance. Further, Mr. Wells stated that he had restored and sold a wooden boat and that he planned to use funds generated by the sale to cover costs associated with the analysis of several of the site’s artifacts (e.g., ceramic sherds and brass objects) to learn more about them. Mr. Wells also mentioned wanting to do more background research to see what other archaeological sites were in the vicinity of his Weymouth permit area. Jonathan Patton asked if the artifact analysis Mr. Wells proposed, the process of which would be inherently destructive, was necessary, given the large body of existing published information on similar kinds of artifacts? Jonathan Patton suggested that BUAR may have some of these published sources, or could recommend some of them to Mr. Wells. Jonathan Patton then stated that because the artifacts could be interpreted using existing sources, Mr. Wells’s plan to conduct destructive testing was likely not necessary. Further, Jonathan Patton noted that if such testing was pursued, Mr. Wells would need to submit a formal research design and methodology for the proposed analysis to the BUAR for review and approval prior to the testing’s initiation.

Dave R explained to Mr. Wells the importance and use of research designs and field methodology plans for organizing and guiding archaeological research. Dave R stated that the BUAR’s condition that Mr. Wells submit a more detailed field methodology plan was intended to assist him in organizing and focusing his research, and that the condition needed to be met for the BUAR to be able to consider his application for renewal. Dan Sampson asked Dave R if there was a template for field methodology plans and research designs that could be provided to Mr. Wells to assist him in developing his own for his permit area. Dave R said information on and examples of research designs were available and could be provided to Mr. Wells to assist him in developing an appropriate field methodology plan to meet the Board’s condition. Dave R noted that the plan need not be elaborate or complicated, but instead should be simple to start, with some basic goals and methods that can serve as a guide and foundation for Mr. Wells to build his future research upon. Dave R recommended that the BUAR consider extending Mr. Wells’s permit expiration date until the next meeting of the BUAR, scheduled for September 24, 2020, to give Mr. Wells additional time to prepare and submit the required field methodology plan to the BUAR for its consideration. There was no further discussion.

Graham McKay moved to extend the expiration date of Robert Wells’s Reconnaissance Permit (18-001) for the Weymouth Site with all the standard and special conditions in effect until the next meeting of the Board scheduled for September 24, 2020. Michael Driscoll seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. – Mayflower Wind (Falmouth to Nantucket)

Dave R reported that R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s had submitted a Special Use Permit Application for the archaeological survey of the Mayflower Wind Project area within state waters, between Falmouth and Nantucket. Dave R, as BUAR’s Director, provisionally granted Special Use Permit (20-001) to R. Christopher Goodwin Associates, Inc. on March 12, 2020. This permit application was then
placed on the agenda for the full BUAR’s review and consideration at its March 28, 2020 public meeting, which was subsequently cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

On April 23, 2020, the BUAR received from Mayflower Wind a request to alter the geotechnical data collection spacing for the portion of the project’s export cable route in Massachusetts state waters. Specifically, Mayflower requested that the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management’s (BOEM’s) minimum standard spacing for geotechnical sampling in federal waters (i.e., 3,280 ft [1 km]) be used instead of BUAR’s 1,000 ft minimum standard spacing for georarchaeological vibracore/boring sampling in state waters. The BUAR responded to Mayflower’s request with a letter on May 18, 2020 requesting additional information. On May 22, 2020, representatives from Mayflower Wind, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., and the BUAR’s Director discussed Mayflower’s request during a video-teleconference. As a result of this discussion, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. submitted to the BUAR a more detailed description of their planned approach to the geoarchaeological survey. This description stated that the geoarchaeological vibracoring sampling would be conducted to BUAR’s 1,000-ft standard as a baseline with discretionary coring conducted as well to supplement the BUAR-compliant baseline coring. Further, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. stated that the selection of the discretionary coring locations would be made based on the results of their analysis of the project’s geophysical data and in coordination with BUAR, MHC and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices for their input and approval. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s Owen Wright and Steven Schmidt were in attendance to represent R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s permit application. Dave R asked Mr. Wright and Mr. James if his summary of their proposed geoarchaeological coring plan was accurate. They confirmed that it was. Jonathan Patton asked if R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. had submitted their more detailed description of their geoarchaeological survey plan to the MHC for their consideration and comment. Mr. Wright and Mr. James confirmed that it was. There was no further discussion.

Michael Driscoll moved to approve R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s Special Use Permit (20-001) for the Mayflower Wind Project Area in state waters between Falmouth and Nantucket with all the standard and special conditions in effect. Graham McKay seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted

B. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. – Mayflower Wind Permit Modification Request

Dave R reported that with R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s more detailed description of their geoarchaeological survey plan indicating that the geoarchaeological sediment coring would be conducted in state waters to BUAR’s 1,000-ft standard as a baseline, with discretionary coring conducted as well to supplement the BUAR-compliant baseline coring, there was no longer a need for the BUAR to consider Mayflower’s request for the 3,280-ft (1 km) spacing of geotechnical sampling in state waters for distinctly separate, non-archaeological, engineering purposes. Further, Dave R noted that R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.’s plan to coordinate with and seek the input and approval of the BUAR, the MHC and the Tribal Historic Preservation Offices as part of the discretionary geoarchaeological core location selection process actually represented a “best-practice” approach, in which BUAR looks forward to participating.

6. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Free Public Lecture on the Sinking and Salvage of the US Submarine S-4

Dave R stated that on February 19, 2020, he gave a free public lecture, “Fearless Devotion: An Accounting of the Sinking and Salvage of the US Submarine S-4” at the East Regiment Beer Company in Salem. The well-attended talk described the December 17, 1927 loss of the S-4. The S-4 sank in 102 feet of water after being accidentally rammed by the U.S. Coast Guard destroyer Paulding (CG-17) off of Provincetown. Tragically, winter storms prevented efforts to rescue six survivors trapped inside the submarine, and all of the sub’s 40-person crew perished. However, the national attention that the tragedy of the loss of the S-4’s crew a week before the winter holidays received in the press led the U.S. Navy to make dramatic improvements in the operations and safety of their submarines. On a personal note, Dave
R shared that his great-great uncle, Thomas Eadie, who served as Chief Diver in the S-4’s rescue and salvage effort, was awarded a Navy Cross and the Congressional Medal of Honor for his work on the project.

B. MIT Media Lab Open-Ocean Seminar

Dave R reported that on March 9, 2020, he was the MIT Media Lab’s Open-Ocean Initiative’s featured seminar speaker. The Lab’s Open Ocean initiative is a unique program that describes itself as working “at the intersection of science, technology, art, and society to design and deploy new ways to understand the ocean and connect people to it in novel ways, empowering a global community of explorers.” The focus of Dave R’s presentation to the Lab’s students, staff, and faculty was on his 20-plus years of experience collaborating with Indigenous community groups on underwater archaeology projects in southern New England during and outside of his work as BUAR’s Director.

C. Tactical Reintegration Project (TRP)/DivARC (Diver Archaeological Reconnaissance Cooperative) Training

Dave R reported that BUAR was scheduled to observe and assist the Tactical Reintegration Project (TRP)/DivARC (Diver Archaeological Reconnaissance Cooperative) leadership team and Bridgewater State University’s Dr. Calvin Miers with three introductory archaeological pool training sessions in March, April, and May. Unfortunately, all three of these sessions had to be cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. The hope is that they will be rescheduled for some time later this year. BUAR’s involvement in this community-based program to assist veterans in bridging the gap between active service and everyday life through mission-focused diving activities has been on-going for the past several years. We look forward to it continuing that involvement again as soon possible.

D. United Divers of Central Massachusetts

Dave R reported that BUAR was scheduled to present an in-person talk on underwater archaeology during the March 19 meeting of the United Divers of Central Massachusetts Dive Club. This talk had to be postponed as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, and is in the process of being rescheduled.

F. Sea Scouts/SALTY (Seamanship and Leadership Training for Youths) Program Zoom-Talk

Dave R reported that he gave a “Zoom-talk” on May 12, 2020. The underwater archaeology talk was presented to a Sea Scouts Troop and their counselors who are affiliated with the SALTY (Seamanship And Leadership Training for Youths) Program, based in Warwick, RI. SALTY is a non-profit organization providing seamanship and leadership training to young men and women. SALTY works in partnership with the Sea Scouts and Gold Star Teens programs, the latter of which works with the surviving sons and daughters of military personnel who have lost their lives in service to our country. The core of the SALTY Program are week-long sailing adventures in traditional vessels in the waters of Narragansett Bay and Block Island, as well as around the islands of Cuttyhunk, Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket. The talk was well-received and BUAR has been invited back to do more Zoom-talks on underwater archaeology-related topics for the SALTY Program Sea Scouts.

D. School Programs

Two, in-person, BUAR school programs planned for March – one with the After-School Enrichment Collaborative of the Chenery Middle School in Belmont, and the other with St. Theresa's Middle School in Somerville, had to be postponed as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. They were rescheduled for early June as Zoom-talks. The Belmont Schools talk will focus on developing underwater archaeological research questions and the scientific methods that are utilized to answer those questions, while the Somerville School talk with focus on a more general underwater archaeology theme.
Dave R noted that with the meeting’s completion, the BUAR is entering its period of summer hiatus from regular meetings. The next scheduled public meeting of the BUAR is 12:30 pm September 24, 2020. Dave R commented that it is currently uncertain whether that meeting will also need be held via video-conference, or if it will be possible by then to hold it as an in-person public meeting at CZM/BUAR’s offices at 251 Causeway Street. Dave R stated that the BUAR’s Public Meetings webpage will be updated during the summer with new meeting format information, and he recommended that permittees and interested members of the public continue to monitor the BUAR webpage for these updates.

Dave R thanked MassBays’ Pam DiBona for co-hosting, and thanked the BUAR members, the permittees, and the members of the public for their attendance and participation in the video-conference meeting. Dave R noted his appreciation for everyone’s efforts, cooperation, and patience in doing good work during these challenging times, and wished everyone continued good health and safety.

Dan Sampson moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 PM. Nadia Waski seconded. Unanimous in favor by roll-call vote. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Robinson
Director