

**Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**The Children's Museum, 300 Congress Street, Boston MA**  
**Harcourt Teachers Leadership Center**  
**March 7th, 2001**  
**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Jack Wiggin, Chair, welcomed all and declared a quorum. 19 of the 28 Advisory Council members were present (see attached attendance sheet). There was a motion made to accept the minutes from the December 6th meeting with amendments. **The motion was carried.**

### **Opening Comments**

Jack Wiggin, Chair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He explained the role of the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council. Jack offered thanks to Mary Raczko and Carolanne Brown for their efforts in preparing the meeting.

Jack introduced our hosts at the Children's Museum, Charlene Merrill Smith and Dottie Merrill. Dottie Merrill welcomed everyone and explained about the collaborative efforts involving the harbor that the museum is presently undertaking.

The Advisory Council members and ex-officios introduced themselves to the public.

Seth Kaplan inquired about the latest information related to the motion passed at the last Advisory Council meeting regarding the request that the Partners submit financial reports stating their commitments to the islands. Jack explained that at the last Partnership meeting he relayed the motion, which prompted a discussion about it. The subject was also brought to the attention of the Planning, Finance and Operation committees.

Bruce Jacobson, NPS, reported that the majority of the Advisory Council's suggestions were incorporated into the revision of the capital plan (formally called the strategic plan); the details were reported at the December meeting of the Partnership. He said that the capital plan states the financial need only. The Operations committee has requested that each Partner agency submit a draft of their 5-year operational needs.

A motion was made that the Co-chairs and representatives of the council on the Partnership be directed to ask, in all relevant meetings during the next year, for a clear statement by each Partner agency what plans and/or what intentions that each has to contribute capital and/or operating funds to the Park over the next five years. **The motion was passed.**

### **Annual Report**

Jack Wiggin gave a review of the activities of the Advisory Council in 2000. The draft annual report will be distributed to members for review when complete.

The Advisory Council held five official meetings and several study sessions in 2000. The Council received fifteen thousand dollars from the Merck Family Fund to support public outreach efforts. The draft General Management Plan (GMP) came out in early summer; the Advisory Council hosted eight (8) community meetings around the region for public

review of the draft GMP. The Advisory Council submitted comments to be included in the final drafts of both the GMP and the five-year Strategic Plan. The Advisory Council began a survey of the islands, as a pilot "Report Program". A speaker series is scheduled to begin in spring with the intent of keeping people thinking about the harbor islands throughout the winter. The Advisory Council participated in the Island Alliance's annual dinner and continues to actively participate in the committees of the Partnership.

### **Nominations**

Jack Wiggin described the nomination process and requested that each interest group report on their nominations. The nominations are as follows:

#### Advisory Council Nominations

### **Advocacy**

Suzanne Gall Marsh – Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands  
Patricia Foley – Save the Harbor Save the Bay

### **Business and Commercial**

Regina Burke – Hull Chamber of Commerce  
Peter Davidoff – Bosport Docking

### **Community Groups**

Claudia Smith-Reid – Roxbury Multi-Service Center  
Ellen McBride – Chelsea Civic Association  
*Ex-officio*  
Loraine Downey –  
Sha-King Alston – Environmental Diversity Forum

### **Education and Cultural**

Mary Corcoran – Massachusetts Bay Educators Alliance  
Jack Wiggin – Urban Harbors Institute, UMASS Boston  
*Ex-officio*  
Rob Moir -  
Peter Rosen – Northeastern University  
Dotty Merrill – The Children's Museum  
David Weinstein -  
Sukey Padawer – New England Aquarium  
Nick Haddad –

### **Environmental Organizations**

Seth Kaplan – Conservation Law Foundation  
William Giezentanner - Appalachian Mountain Club  
*Ex-Officio*  
Marcie Tyre – Seaside Environmental Alliance

### **Municipalities**

Phil Lemnios – Town of Hull  
Bernice Mader – City of Quincy  
*Municipalities Ex-officio*  
Dan Condon – Office of the Honorable William Delahunt  
Frederick Clark – Office of the Honorable John Joseph Moakley  
Gregg Nolan – Office of the Honorable Michael Capuano  
Mark Racicot – Metropolitan Area Planning Council

David Soule – Metropolitan Area Planning Council

**Native American Interests**

Edith Andrews – Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

John Sam Sapiel – Penobscot Nation

*Ex-officio*

Millie McCowan – Nipmuc Nation

Chris Montgomery - Nipmuc Nation

Hiawatha Brown – Narragansett Tribe

Nomination of officers and partnership voting members

**Voting Partners and Alternates**

Voting - Edith Andrews

Voting - Claudia Smith-Reid

Alternate - Joe Ferrino

Alternate - Suzanne Gall Marsh

**Co-Chairs**

Phil Lemnios

Tom Lindberg

**Vice Chair**

Mary Corcoran

A motion was made to approve the nominations. **The motion was unanimously passed.** All nominations will be forward to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

**Partnership Committee membership**

Jack requested that Advisory Council members sign up for Partnership committee membership. It is the goal to have an Advisory Council member present at each committee meeting.

There is a new function on the park's website - [www.BostonIslands.com/meetings](http://www.BostonIslands.com/meetings) - will show a calendar of park meetings. It is planned to also add the minutes of all meetings of the Partnership and Advisory Council to the web.

**Advisory Council By-laws**

Rob Moir suggested that a committee be established to evaluate Advisory Council's Bylaws.

A motion was made to form an ad hoc committee to evaluate the Advisory Council's bylaws. **The motion was passed.** The first meeting was set with the objective to discuss the structure and charge of the bylaws committee. A meeting was scheduled for the Bylaws committee to meet the third Tuesday of March before the Partnership Meeting.

**Report from the National Park Service**

George Price, NPS, expressed his appreciation for the extraordinary efforts put forth by Jack Wiggin and Suzanne Gall Marsh as Chair and Vice-chair of the Advisory Council. George recognized the contributions that Rob Moir and Edith Andrews have made as Voting Partners. He also recognized the efforts of the Claudia Smith Reid and Phil Lemnios as alternate Partners.

George talked about the development of the draft GMP Plan and the Capital Plan. He stated that the job now is to work on the funding for these plans. He has recently submitted several funding requests through the NPS process.

The park has received funding for the Public Land Corps youth program again this year. The program will be expanded and will fund six (6) camps this year.

There is a current project developing park-wide signs. The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) was developing signs for Deer and Nut islands and offered their consultants to the Partnership to produce a template. Secretary Bob Durand has committed \$75k in matching funds to the program. It is hoped to get welcome signs on the hub islands and main gateways this season.

George reported that an alternate transportation plan is being worked on that will address the ADA components of the piers on the islands. The park will continue to search for funding opportunities.

Bruce Jacobson stated that an inter-tidal study has been fully funded. A carrying capacity study is also scheduled to begin this season. Ten thousand dollars has been secured toward a curriculum based educational initiative on the Indian Story.

### **Public Participation**

An update on Nix's Mate was requested. The US Coast Guard was considering demolishing the current structure and putting up a standard new aid to navigation because it contained hazardous material and was structurally unstable. Many were concerned about this course of action as Nix's Mate is a cultural landmark and has historical significance. .

Lt. Governor Michael Bear announced a meeting of Indian Tribes that will be held in Old Town, Maine on March 30. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss issues related to Boston Harbor Islands.

Joan Bailey stated that the boats and bathrooms on the boats are not ADA accessible. She said it is not even easily accessible to senior citizens. She commented that pressure needs to be put on these boat companies to make park facilities available to all members of the public.

George Price said that until Spectacle Island is open there is no ADA access even once you are on the islands. It is a current issue under discussion. As of yet, there are no federal standards for boat ADA access, but the issue is currently being addressed. He also spoke of the particular challenges of Boston Harbor with the 10-foot tidal change.

George Marsh, Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, commented that he has heard little from the Partnership about the gas pipeline going across the harbor. He stated that he has seen very little about the process in the news and suggested the Advisory Council become involved. Seth Kaplan stated that the process still in the planning phase. There are many different facets to the proposal and agreed that it was something that we need to keep and eye on. Peter Lewenberg, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, stated that he is following it and expects the park to have will have input on issues that effect the islands.

Regina Burke commented that another upcoming issue of concern was the new runway at Logan Airport. A suggestion was made that the Advisory Council go back on record saying that they oppose the new runway at Logan Airport and draft a letter to that effect. A motion was made to authorize the Co-chairs to write a letter about the Logan Airport improvement that is consistent with the prior resolution of that purpose. **The motion was passed.**

Peter Lewenberg announced new park events, a symphony on August 11 and triathlon on August 18. Claudia Smith Reid announced Save the Harbor Save the Bay is hosting a blues bash on March 28. Suzanne Gall Marsh announced the Friend's Winter Wildlife Cruise.

Suzanne Gall Marsh stated that on March 14<sup>th</sup> there will be a House Bill 321 that affects the MDC parks. A motion was made that the Advisory Council support House Bill 321 and write a letter in favor of the legislation. It was decided that more information was needed before . **The motion was tabled.** It was suggested that individuals act on their own. There was a suggestion that a study session be formed to address the house bill and the issues around the new runway at Logan.

#### **Next Meeting Dates**

June 20<sup>th</sup> 4-6

September 12<sup>th</sup> 6-8

December 5<sup>th</sup> 4-6

March 6, 2002 6-8

Locations to be announced

#### **New Business**

There was a discussion about Advisory Council showing a team effort in an island cleanup project.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.**

## Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council

March 7, 2001

### Meeting Attendance

#### VOTING MEMBERS

1. Edith Andrews	
2. Regina Burke	<b>X</b>
3. Charles Cristello*	
4. Stephen Comer	
5. Mary Corcoran	<b>X</b>
6. Peter Davidoff	
7. John Dinga	<b>X</b>
8. Bernie Dreibratt	
9. Joe Ferrino	<b>X</b>
10. Patricia Foley*	
11. William Giezentanner	
12. Carl Johnson	<b>X</b>
13. Seth Kaplan	<b>X</b>
14. Greg Ketchen	<b>X</b>
15. Phil Lemnios	<b>X</b>
16. John Lewis	<b>X</b>
17. Vivien Li	<b>X</b>
18. Tom Lindberg	
19. Bernice Mader Chris Reilly	<b>X</b>
20. Suzanne Gall Marsh	<b>X</b>
21. Ellen McBride*	<b>X</b>
22. Ed McCabe	<b>X</b>
23. Sherman Morss	<b>X</b>
24. Karen O'Donnell	<b>X</b>
25. John Sam Sapiel	<b>X</b>
26. Claudia Smith Reid	<b>X</b>
27. Lawrence Snake	
28. Jack Wiggin	<b>X</b>

\* Does not have voting status yet

#### NON-VOTING MEMBERS

##### Ex officio (Education)

Nick Haddad	
Dotty Merrill	<b>X</b>
Rob Moir	<b>X</b>
Sukey Padawar	
Peter Rosen	
David Weinstein	<b>X</b>

##### Ex officio (Community)

Sha-King Alston	
Lorraine Downey	X

##### Ex officio (Environmental)

Marci Tyre	
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##### Ex officio (Municipalities)

Dan Condon Congressman William Delahunt	
Frederick Clark Congressman Joseph Moakley	
Gregg Nolan Congressman Michael Capuano	
David Soule/Mark Racicot Metropolitan Area Planning Council	<b>MR</b>

##### Ex officio (Native American)

Hiawatha Brown	
Mildred McCowan	
Chris Montgomery	<b>X</b>

#### OTHERS

Kathy Abbott	<b>X</b>
Bruce Jacobson	<b>X</b>
Peter Lewenberg	<b>X</b>
George Price	<b>X</b>
Mary Raczko	<b>X</b>
Carolanne Brown	<b>X</b>