

**Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Northeastern University, Shillman Hall, Room 220, Boston, MA
Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Maureen Cavanaugh, Vice-Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all. Members and audience were introduced. The minutes of the December 7, 2011 meeting were approved with one correction-Maureen Cavanaugh was present.

Boston Harbor Rising Sea Level and Drowned Drumlins

Peter Rosen of Northeastern University gave a presentation about historic sea level rise and drowned drumlins in Boston Harbor.

Membership Update

Superintendent Bruce Jacobson congratulated the new official members of the council, Walter Hope, Nancy Callanan, and Elizabeth Solomon. He also congratulated the recently re-appointed members, Matt Wolfe, Charlie Norris, and Lauri Webster. He announced that all candidate names recommended by the Council at the December meeting will be forwarded on to the Director of the National Park Service if candidates had turned in the required paperwork. Three candidates had yet to complete. Bruce passed out an updated that showed all candidates, members whose terms are expiring in 2013, and newly appointed members.

Ask the Superintendent

Bruce Jacobson responded to several questions.

- DCR allocated \$1.7M for repairs to Georges Island pier that should last 5-10 years. Some of the piles and all of the decking are being replaced. The target completion date is May 31. DCR, NPS, and Island Alliance continue to search for funding to replace the pier. The Tiger Grant was not approved.
- The float currently on Thompson Island will be moved to Peddocks Island for the coming season. It had been on loan from DCR.
- Ferry service to Georges and Spectacle Islands starts May 5. Interisland service starts June 22 with three different routes, providing more service than in the recent past.
- The contract for managing the Spectacle Island Marina and Island Moorings is currently out to bid by Boston Harbor Island Alliance.
- The islands do not have a close connection to the War of 1812, but the harbor will be very active during the commemoration. It will include the *USS Constitution* turn-around with the *Eagle*, a large group of Navy ships, tall ships (no parade of sail). Security and channeling of boat traffic over the first week of July will effect visitation. The extent of the effect is as of yet unknown. Members requested a more in-depth update for the next meeting.
- DCR has a goal to complete the asbestos abatement on Gallops Island in 2013 and a possible re-opening in 2014.

- Many unsafe buildings at Fort Andrews were removed on Peddocks Island. Many other buildings were stabilized, and the guardhouse was converted into a visitor contact station. The caretaker, an artist in residence, is scheduled to move in soon.
- An Artist-in-Residence program is being considered at the park. It would include the annual Art Encampment (likely on Peddocks Island this year), arts from the ICA on Georges Island, and Digital Art at the Pavilion.
- Pavilion opens on May 5.
- It is not yet known what kind of food service may be available at Peddocks Island. There will be changes in food service at Spectacle, no more grilled food. There will also be changes implemented on Georges Island to speed up service and shorten the lines.

New Business

Suzanne Gall Marsh announced the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands are working on scheduling several boat trips including some to Rainsford, Great Brewster, and Calf Islands. She announced the Friends also have a new, improved website www.fbhi.org.

A cell phone tour is being developed for Spectacle Island, hopefully to be followed by one for Fort Warren.

Volunteer opportunities for Stewardship Saturday have expanded throughout the calendar year, and include not only helping control invasive plants of the islands, but also opportunities for citizen science. The stewardship crew is testing a "Chicken Tractor on Bumpkin Island this summer to try to reduce ticks on well travelled trails.

Public Comment

There was no further public comment.

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council

3/7/12 Meeting Attendees

MEMBERS PRESENT (X)

1. John Anderson	X
2. Jennifer Bender	X
3. Victor Brogna	
4. Nancy Callanan	
5. Maureen Cavanaugh, Vice-Chair	X
6. Teresa Czerepica	
7. Walter Hope	X
8. Mel Harris	
9. Mary Anne Hendricks	
10. Rick Kasseli	
11. Dale Linder	X
12. Rob Moir, Chair	
13. Chris Montgomery	X
14. Charlie Norris	X
15. Jim Peters	X
16. Bill Reardon	
17. Peter Rosen	X
18. Elizabeth Solomon	
19. Lauri Webster	
20. Matt Wolfe	
21. Vacant Seat, Advocacy	
22. Vacant Seat, Business	
23. Vacant Seat, Business	
24. Vacant Seat, Business	
25. Vacant Seat, Community	
26. Vacant Seat, Education	
27. Vacant Seat, Municipalities	
28. Vacant Seat, Municipalities	

*pending member

OTHERS PRESENT

Marc Albert, NPS	X
Susannah Corona	
Jane Ellis, BHIA	
Lou Gainor	
Megan Glenn	
Bill Hale**	X
Hugh Hawthorne, NPS	
Bruce Jacobson, NPS	X
Carl Johnson**	X
Susan Kane, DCR	
Steve Marcus	X
Suzanne Gall Marsh	X
James Martell	X
Phillip Marsh, NPS	
Pat Morss**	
Karen O'Donnell**	
Tom Powers, BHIA	
Mary Raczko	
Jay Schmidt	X

BHIA – Boston Harbor Island Alliance
 DCR – Department of Conservation and Recreation
 NPS – National Park Service
 TIOBEC-Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center

**Emeritus Council Member