

BOSTON HARBOR ISLANDS PARTNERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 1998 10am – 1pm
Hale and Dorr, Boston, Massachusetts

Corrected Minutes 4/9/98

Garry McCann noted that several corrections were needed in the section on the Advisory Council: there is one "l" in Philips for King Philips War; only 4 of the 8 federally recognized tribes were represented at the consultation meeting; the word Protection is in the NAGPRA law; and the King Philips War was from 1675-1678 (this is a matter of interpretation among historians, Philip was killed in 1676)

Kathy Abbott noted that there was an extensive presentation on the business plan presented by Susan M_____ on the Island Alliance. The plan was based on numerous interviews with partners and staff. The Island Alliance also showed the video presented by BankBoston, So Near, Yet So Far.

Chairman Webber called the ninth meeting to order.

PRESENT: Brian Broderick, MDC; Jim Doolin, MASSPORT; Dick Howe, TTOR; Alden Gifford, TIOBEC; Linda Haar, BRA; Dan May, USCG; Gerry Millet, IA; Terry Savage, NPS; Cathleen Douglas Stone, City of Boston; Peter Webber, DEM

The minutes of the February 18, 1998, meeting were accepted with corrections noted.

Reports from the committees followed.

Marketing and Public Relations, Kathy Abbott

Boston Harbor Islands park has been featured with a seven-page article in the current edition of "Northeast Sailing Life." The park can also be found written up in the 1998 Massachusetts Getaway Guide, published by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism. It is also identified on the new Massachusetts State Park map.

She also reported that the DEM has committed \$10,000 toward the park brochure. The NPS has committed \$25,000. Additional funds will have to be identified for printing of the Unigrd and events calendar. Kathy stated that the development of the park website is a high priority and has been discussed at several marketing meetings. Agencies with sites are urged to produce items about the park and link them to the NPS site.

Gerry Millet introduced the new logo that was recommended by the special meeting on the logo. Partnership members were asked to comment, and the consensus was a positive one. Gerry made a motion to accept the logo as presented, it was unanimously approved.

Advisory Council, George Price

Mr. Price had several general things to report. NPS held the first consultation meeting with representatives of the eight federally recognized American Indian tribes who have "cultural affiliation" with the islands and the King Phillips War of the 1675. Peter Webber and Martin Suuberg participated and provided Partnership participation. Issues discussed included the Native American Graves Repatriation Act (NAGRA) and consultation required in Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

On Monday, March 9, 1998, there was an afternoon orientation boat trip for new Advisory Council members and American Indian representatives. The tour included a stormy sea visit to the islands including a visit to George's Island. There were a number of representatives from DEM, MDC and the Friends in attendance. A great lunch was provided by the Island Alliance and Tastefully Yours catering. We ended Monday with a public workshop held at the North American Indian Center in Jamaica Plain.

The first official Advisory Council of the Boston Harbor Islands meeting was March 10, 1998. It was primarily an organizational meeting. Mr. Price also introduced the Advisory Council members who were present. Next month's Advisory Council's goal is to elect the leadership and decide who will fill the two seats on the Partnership.

Planning Committee, Linda Haar

The planning committee has finished its series of public workshops, and collective comments will be available soon. The main interests represented in the workshops were private boaters, people with a high level of knowledge of the islands, wishes to keep the islands natural, and various activities, events for the children and elderly, educational opportunities, expenses, and small complaints such as the lack of restrooms and concessions.

Ms. Haar also pointed out that Thompson Island Outward Bound is looking at some serious financial options in the future including the sale of the development rights to approximately 85% of the island. The Planning Committee will be meeting on March 31st to look at how the Partnership may help Thompson Island Outward Bound, and will report back to the Partnership at its next meeting.

Regarding Spectacle Island, the committee recommends supporting the marina and visitors center project promised by the Central Artery. Mr. Doolin made a motion for each member agency to communicate firmly, but politely, to the Central Artery the importance of the marina to the park plan. Mr. Howe amended the motion to say that the letter should specifically mention the visitor's center and marina. Mr. Millet seconded.
The vote was unanimous.

Finance Committee, Peter Webber

The finance committee recognizes a need for some legal review to see whether the laws of the Commonwealth or the federal government apply in how the Partnership directs expenditures. Mr. Webber suggests that this is an item to activate the pro bono offer of legal counsel from Hale and Dorr. Mr. Price pointed out that in the enabling legislation for the park, it says that National Park Service standards need to be adhered to. Mr. Broderick pointed out that the Commonwealth's laws closely follow those of the federal government already. Mr. Webber remanded it back to the finance committee for further inquiry, and they will bring recommendations to the board.

Education, Program and Park Operations Committee, George Price

This committee is currently working on an event calendar for activities presently by all Partners this season. The next meeting will be on March 31st from 1pm – 2:30pm, and educational programs will be discussed.

Public Comments

Suzanne Gall Marsh, Friends of Boston Harbor Islands – urged the committee to concentrate on revenue building activities, and what their percentage of return to the park will be.

Gary McCann – expressed how happy he was over the public meeting at the Native American Center in Jamaica Plain.

Linda Poolong, Delaware Tribe, Anadarko – expressed how happy she was at the hospitality she was receiving on her visit from Oklahoma, and hopes to see more history education on the islands to help educate young Native Americans.

Steve Comer, Mohican Tribe – marveled at how beautiful the islands are, and was interested in learning more about them, especially about their flora and fauna.

Sam Sapiel, Penobscot Nation – also expressed how happy he was with the interest the Partnership and the NPS were showing towards the Native Americans, and saw this as the beginning of a very good relationship.

After a brief pause for lunch, Kathy Abbott showed one of the BankBoston financed fundraising videos hosted by Natalie Jacobsen, with voiceovers from Chet Curtis from WCVB.

Member Agency Updates

MASSPORT – Mr. Doolin was proud to introduce Brad Moriarty, a MASSPORT intern who is currently working with Mr. Price in the project office.

Friends – Wanted to announce their Treasured Island Clean Up on Saturday, April 18, 1998, on Peddock's and Gallops. Bring your own gloves – bags will be provided. Also,

there will be a March for Parks on Saturday, April 25th, with proceeds to benefit Peddock's. The Friends are also currently recruiting volunteers.

National Park Service /US Coast Guard– On May 8th there will be a trip out to Little Brewster to visit Boston Light. Information to follow, all are welcome.

**THE NEXT PARTNERSHIP MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8TH, FROM 12PM – 2PM AT HALE AND DORR.**