

**Boston Harbor Islands Partnership  
Meeting Minutes  
Hale & Dorr, 60 State Street, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston,  
July 16, 2002, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

PRESENT: Claudia Smith-Reid, Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council; Dan May, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG); Kathy Abbott, Island Alliance; Linda Haar, Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA); Peter Lewenberg, Department of Environmental Management; Terry Savage, National Park Service (NPS); Samantha Overton Bussell, Metropolitan District Commission (MDC); George Armstrong, Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center (TIOBEC)

Samantha Overton Bussell, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order and declared a quorum.

**Approval of minutes from May 21, 2002**

There was a motion made to accept the minutes of May 21, 2002. **The motion was approved.**

**Predevelopment of Renewables**

Jack Wiggan, University of Massachusetts-Boston, Urban Harbors Institute, gave a presentation about the status of the Predevelopment of Renewables in the Boston Harbor Islands national park area. (see attached report)

Nils Bolgen, Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC), described the MTC's commitment to develop a competitive, sustainable market for renewable energy. The MTC is investing millions of dollars in the form of grants and loans from the state's \$150 million Renewable Energy Trust to put these technologies to work in Massachusetts. The Island Alliance and University of Massachusetts-Boston were recipients of one of these grants to investigate the feasibility of installing a mix of renewable energy technologies on the islands.

Dave Dilts, Timeless Technologies, provided details about some of the sites that were chosen for study as potential sites for renewable power generating facilities on the islands. The project scope included investigating solar, wind, wave and tidal power opportunities. The next report will include more details of feasibility.

The Partners discussed. They were supportive of green technologies, but recognized that the benefits need to be carefully weighed with the impacts and costs. All were looking forward to the results of the feasibility study.

**Park Updates**

Marketing Committee

Peter Lewenberg reported that the park received a great deal of positive press this year. A comprehensive packet of press articles was available at the meeting or can be obtained by contacting the Project Office. This year, Island Alliance hired Jeremy Crockford as a public relations specialist, and it was very beneficial to the park.

Peter said that park retail merchandise with the new logo is now available and will be on sale after the meeting. The full implementation of the imaging project is not yet complete, the new logo will continue to be phased in.

#### Partnership Retreat Update

The Partnership retreat has been rescheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup> on Thompson Island.

#### Youth Program

George Price said that there was additional funding received for the youth program this year. The program was expanded to a year-round career mentoring effort. This summer, there are several different groups of students working on backlog maintenance projects. As part of the program, the students will also learn about environmental career opportunities. George encouraged all to go out and see the program in action and introduce themselves to the students.

#### **Advisory Council**

Greg Ketchen, Advisory Council Chair, reported that at the June meeting the council approved the community outreach initiative. Since the meeting, a grant request was submitted by Island Alliance for the planning phase of this outreach effort and that The Boston Foundation has requested a site visit.

The next Council meeting will be held on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Public Comments**

Vivien Li, The Boston Harbor Association, asked what type of exhibits were planned for the Spectacle Island visitor center and suggested that the park seek public opinions, perhaps through a survey on the website. Kathy Abbott said that the Aquarium obtained a \$20k grant for alternative energy exhibits, which is a start. George said that a subcommittee has been formed to work on an exhibit plan for the center.

Brad Swing, City of Boston, Office of Environmental Services, said that the Mayor and the Aquarium are sponsoring the 4<sup>th</sup> season of the Harbor Islands Discovery Camp this year. He reported that the City of Boston introduced the draft Long Island Limited Public Access plan at a public meeting on June 24 that was well received. They hope to receive the final plan this month.

Kathy Abbott said that the Island Art Auction was moved from late July to September 5.

George Price announced the Lowell Folk Festival will be held on the last weekend of July.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.