

Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for September 26, 2007

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy. .

Meeting called to order at approximately 7:35 PM. (Minutes taken by Mary Howard)

Attendees:

Teresa Czerepica	SSN
Vincent Malkoski	MA Division of Marine Fisheries / Sea Rovers
Victor Mastone	MA Board of Underwater Archeological Resources
Matthew Lawrence	Stellwagen National Marine Sanctuary
Wally Westphal	
Roy Chamberlain	SSN
Angelo Correnti	SSN
Mary Howard	NSF
Paul Sauvageau	NSF
Al Bozza	NEADC
Michael Wright	PADI
Wendy Quimby	PG Dive
Michael Prange	NEADC
Chris Hugo	MWDC
Al Anzuoni	South Shore Divers
John Blackadar	SSN
Gary Gentile	
Edward L Hayes	started the BSC 100 years ago
Holly Martel-Bourbon	Sea Rovers
Marcie Bilinski	MA Board of Underwater Archeological Resources
Jim Walker	SSN
Alan Reilly	

Old Business:

Poster for dive shops regarding flag use: Al Bozza had intended to finalize the poster before this meeting, but MaryHelen Shuman-Groh was unable to reformat it. Al will have it done for the next BSC meeting.

Artificial Reef Project: John Blackadar and Vin Malkoski are trying to put some dates together to go out in the Quincy Police boat with remote camera. They have a couple of potential days in October when they will try to check out area around the Pinthas. Al Anzuoni is coordinating it.

Gloucester Dive Flag Issue: New signs have been posted at Lanes Cove. They are “obviously” not city-made signs. City of Gloucester is not ready to remove the ordinance from their books, but the Harbormaster is not willing to uphold it. Vin noted that the “State won’t touch it.”

Wally introduced himself and his project (to educate divers about the dive flag law) at the new shop in Gloucester. First thing was he was confronted by divers who wanted to know where the BSC was when the signs went up.

Aquarium in New Bedford: They have 1.5 million dollars raised. They brought gentleman in from Australia to start the aquarium. The sphere from NOAA will be the first thing put into position. Divers will be important to the project as they have expertise to get things started. Saturday there is an event to try to put together their children's program; Vin and Holly were invited to attend. This is planned to be an educational program. Progress is going well now. Woods Hole is behind it.

Library in St. Lucia: John Blackadar is trying to get a library built in St. Lucia. It is taking forever, the government is very slow. Books were sent before Christmas and they have just cleared customs, and are now at the ambassador's place. The town is very poor, schools are really bad. Progress is very slow.

Current Issues:

Over the past month:

In the end of August, some people were told they could not dive at Scusset Beach in Sandwich. They spoke with the owner of Ebb Tide dive shop, Greg McGrath who called Vin Malkoski to find out who was in charge of the Park. According to McGrath, someone had introduced himself as a member of the BSC and had told him the council would not do anything for them.

John Blackadar noted that if people have an issue with the Council, they can come to any meeting; they can come down and help out instead of criticizing.

Al questioned whether we should consider adding something to the poster that says how to contact the BSC? Victor has posters from NY State so we can see what they use for wording.

Fishing Laws: Roy Chamberlain noted that Robert Klavins is trying to get people to sign up to protest lack of enforcement of fishing laws. He begged Roy to get folks to respond. A letter from Mr. Klavins was distributed name at the meeting.

Lost Diver: Lost a diver down in Fourth Cliff (?). People offered to help, but the law enforcement didn't admit to needing help, so the diver spent a week under water. Blackie was going away or he would have called us all and organized divers to find him. Al Anzuoni says it was not the state police. Scituate was the one who said they didn't need anyone's help. - Wally was in Scituate, tried to give help, get info.

Victor –

Looking for remains of 1851 Minot's Ledge lighthouse; Coast Guard will be out again in late October. They think they have pretty good evidence that this is the real thing. CG divers are not used to doing this kind of diving. They were too far off the bottom to actually see anything, but they have been convinced to get closer. "We" are not allowed to dive with the CG.

ACTION ITEMS

Next meeting: December 12 (We will plan to have another in February, before Sea Rovers)

Al to finalize the poster