Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2014

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA 7:40-8:50PM

Attendees:

Paul Adler East Coast Divers Al Anzuoni alzuoni@aol.com John Blackadar SSN

Angelo Correnti SSN / BSC President

Douglas Eaton SSN Gary Greenberg SSN

Mary Howard NSF / BSC Secretary

Ted Maney Salem State U
Vin Malkoski DMF / Sea Rovers
Victor Mastone MBUAR

Ray Porter NSF Mike Vaughan SSN Jeannine Willis SSN Carl Yngve SSN

Organizations represented include:

Central Mass Aquanauts (CMA)

MA Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (MBUAR)

MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)

North Shore Frogmen (NSF)

Salem State University

Sea Rovers

South Shore Neptunes (SSN)

South Shore Skindivers

2014 BSC Treasure Hunt: Was held on September 28, 2014

This year the event was held at Plum Cove rather than Stage Fort Park, with the change at the last minute because of a scheduling error by the City of Gloucester. How did the change in venue work out? Everything went off fine.

Any changes for next year? Keep the following the same:

Registration 8-9:30.

Ready to get in water at 10 again.

Change: Take a lunch break before the snorkel event.

The count was 61 or 64 divers for the diving event, with a bunch of new divers. 5 golf balls were put in the water, 2 were found. The Computer and DUI inflation system were the prizes for the finders of the golf balls.

Prizes came in at the last minute, on the day of the event. The Dive Shops really came through this year. DAN dropped the ball at first, but finally came through with a lot of stuff, which is why we had something for everyone. Good job done by Paul Adler and John Blackadar getting the prizes!

Repeat winner on snorkel event- Boston Scuba won this event.

Neighbors were pleasant and said they were happy to have us there.

The Clubs are planning to have the picnic back at Stage Fort Park. We don't even know if Gloucester regularly gives permits for Plum Cove, or if this was a special option because of the scheduling snafu. Question of date for next year? NSF will probably have the picnic on Sunday, 9/20/15. (This has since been confirmed.)

No vendors showed up. John Stella came to bring gear. If anyone needs a table, let us know in advance. Mass Diving was there with a group, and was giving out pamphlets.

No one was staged at Stage Fort Park, but it was too hard to even get there because of the bike race.

Mary received an email from Michael Prange two days prior to this meeting noting that he would be unable to attend. He has requested: "Could you ask someone to put the photos on a drop box for me? I also need the list of prize donors."

Graves Ledge lighthouse was sold. Much cleaner on the outside. 3 bedrooms.

Sea Rovers – is scheduled for the first full weekend in March, March 7-8, 2015.

Lobster License: The Fisheries wants to increase the lobster permit prices across the board. Recommended change for recreational permit is from \$40 for \$55; for commercial fishermen the increase will be from \$260 to \$310.

Salt water license is \$10, free if over 60 yrs. old. 33% goes to public access, the rest funds research and restoration programs. Included in this is the ventless trap studies, for sampling all lobster sizes. Vin Malkoski thinks the money will actually go to that ongoing study.

The hearing regarding this fee increase is scheduled for November 3, 6PM in Gloucester office of DMF.

Regarding lobster health: The Outer Cape is doing pretty well. Cape Cod Bay not good at all. Long Island Sound is not doing well. Buzzards Bay lobstering is outside in Federal waters.

Is this a non-issue for the BSC? Should we try to have someone up there? Vin, Paul and Angelo plan to go.

John B is talking to people about an access problem at **Brandt Rock, Marshfield**. We should approach it through a resident in Marshfield, speak to the people who made the regulation to find out why they really made the change to have sticker parking only in the summer. Show them that half the time, bad weather and evenings, no one is there. They are losing people who would stop by for a bite to eat, and would make more money by putting in meters. They said they were going to take the signs down off-season, but haven't done it yet. Is this a good way to approach it, through residents, before going the Legal route? This will be around the first of the year. Ok'd by Angelo.

Mag Rocks issue in Gloucester has been cleared up.

Al Anzuoni – **South Shore Skin Divers** in Weymouth – might be moving his shop.

Next meeting

January 28, 2015 / Snow date Feb 4, 2015. These times are scheduled so as to allow discussion of BSC presence at Sea Rovers.