

Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for April 29, 2015

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA 7:45-9:08 PM

Attendees:

Paul	Adler	Independent
John	Blackadar	SSN
Angelo	Correnti	SSN / BSC President
Teresa	Czerepica	SSN
John A.	DeMasi III	Guest
Mary	Howard	NSF / BSC Secretary
Matthew	Lawrence	SBNMS
Vin	Malkoski	DMF / Sea Rovers
Ted	Maney	Salem State University
Victor	Mastone	BUAR
Jim	Nannery	MWDC
Ray	Porter	NSF
Michael	Prange	NEAq

Organizations represented include:

Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (BUAR)
MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)
MetroWest Dive Club (MWDC)
North Shore Frogmen's Club (NSF)
Salem State University
Sea Rovers
South Shore Neptunes (SSN)
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS)

Boston Sea Rovers

The BSC table got approximately \$200 for the Red Sox raffle; that with donations, the cost of the booth was covered. The Club fed the volunteers at the discover scuba event at the show, as there was inadequate food supplied by the hotel.

Bay State Council Treasure Hunt

The Treasure Hunt will be back at Stage Fort Park this year. People really liked the Plum Cove location which was much easier for divers, good cove, etc. Don't think Gloucester normally gives permits for that location. There was one complaint about trash from a neighbor, but the city said it was not a problem

John Blackadar and Paul Adler did a lot of circulating at Sea Rovers and got a lot of donations for prizes for the Council's Treasure Hunt; 10-15 items donated, and some promises, so we have a good start. Before the event, will need to contact the local shops, and also talk to manufacturers.

Is there any thought about the possibility of a competition for the BSC to try to get more people interested in the Council? Seems as though it would be difficult to organize and we won't try it at this time.

Now the BSC Treasure Hunt is held at the same time as the North Shore Frogmen's MetroWest's annual picnic. Other clubs? NEAQ, Finatics?

Paul Adler's suggestion: Try to get more shops involved, by getting the clubs to ask the shop owners to get more people to show up. Club members should keep contacting the shops to try to get every shop to bring their people to the event.

There were lots of young people in the snorkel event. Can we see if other snorkelers would be interested?

Roy Chamberlain puts the flyer together. It is now on the BSC website so everyone can download, print, laminate, distribute. Blackie will print and laminate some for shops, and bring a bunch of black and white ones for everyone at the next meeting.

NSF needs to get the permit for September 20.

Michael will generate a QR code, email it to Mary, Mary will forward to Teresa and Jim Nannery who will get this done with Roy and John Blackadar.

White Beach / Beach Restrictions

White Beach parking is restricted to residents only, as is Brant Rock in Marshfield. Question was posed as to whether White Beach has ever collected Federal Funds for beach repair? MEMA money is paid by Massachusetts taxpayers. We could call and ask attorney Steve Koren who was involved with the BSC before.

John B. suggested that the BSC could have a panel at Sea Rovers next year showing beaches closed, title – **“The Beaches Are Being Lost”**. Some work in CT is getting beaches back open. Blackie will follow up to find out what group they are using to get the beaches open. A

workshop room would work better than a seminar room because of no time limit. Have people come voice their opinions. Vin and Ted of Sea Rovers will start working on getting a room for Saturday afternoon, post it on the website. Get people to take photos of the closed beaches. Approach it as “It’s not for us, it’s for our kids.”

Closed beaches (i.e. closed to parking) list so far:

Brandt Rock
White Beach

World Oceans Day at the New England Aquarium - June 7

This is the second year for this event which is held in the plaza in front of the Aquarium. <http://news.neaq.org/2012/04/celebrate-world-oceans-day-with.html> Expect about 1000 kids and their parents.

Sea Rovers will have a table, Salem State will have a table. BSC should have a table too; it’s free. Need to register by May 15. Ted Maney will do registration.

Neptunes members will draft a flyer about beaches being closed; Vin will be available to edit. Heading: **Free the Beaches**. If you know beaches that are closed, let us know. Tell people to talk to their legislators. Angelo will talk to Steve Koren to see what info/letters, etc. he has from when the BSC worked on opening up beaches in the past. We should have info for the Council dive event too.

Have an activity that attracts kids. Paul will bring a helmet so kids can have their pictures taken with the helmet on.

We’ll have a meeting before this, on May 19 at 7:30.

Down the road we might be able to ask for donations.

Plaque – The Minot’s Light plaque is in John Blackadar’s hands. He has plans for this summer.

SeaPlan Survey

Matt Lawrence asked everyone to go into the survey at <http://www.seaplan.org/project/coastal-and-marine-recreational-study-for-new-england/> to register where you dive in the entire northeast. People have noted that the site is painfully slow, but Mary received notification by email that improvements have been made and it should work better now. You cannot see what other people have entered, but Matt can. He says the numbers of people completing the form are important. He also recommends logging in larger sections than one distinct dive site at a time. Note that the survey will be **closed on May 15**, so get your surveys done asap.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2015 at 7:30PM