

Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2016

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA 7:35-9:00 PM

Attendees:

John	Blackadar	SSN
Jim	Brady	OCA
Angelo	Correnti	SSN / BSC President
Theresa	Czerepica	SSN
Jim	D'Urso	NSF
Doug	Eaton	SSN
Ken	Hayes	SSN
Matthew	Lawrence	SBNMS
Mary	Howard	NSF / BSC Secretary
Vin	Malkoski	DMF / Sea Rovers
Ted	Maney	Salem State University
Vic	Mastone	BUAR

Organizations represented include:

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

Coastal Access Issue:

Mass Bass – Ken went to a meeting of Mass Bass. They are beach buggy assoc. They know about the meeting tonight and the meeting at Sea Rovers. A rep was supposed to come to the meeting tonight.

Victor recommended that our letter state “this issue affects many others.” Vin will update the letter and have it ready to hand out at Danversport Yacht Club on Feb 27, Dive Club Meetings, and Sea Rovers. The letter should be handed out at Sea Rovers to everyone who stops by the BSC booth and shows interest.

What we think is going to happen at Sea Rovers (Sunday in Essex Room 2-3PM, 2nd floor with other workshop rooms): There will be a table at head of the room with chairs, and then ~30 chairs in the room. The object now is to get contact info from attendees. From that info – divers and other organizations – make a list. After that rent a room in a hotel and invite any and all to attend. We might have radio ads, newspaper blurbs, and invite all groups. Suggest that we want this to be done through the BSC, rather than having multiple groups going in many directions. If

another group with money would like to take it over, that would be okay. - Remember, most people do not live on the water, so politicians need to be made involved. Then set up a subcommittee with non-profit status so any donations would go directly to that purpose. This committee might be run by BSC, or by a group of representatives from different user groups.

Ideas that to bring forward at the meeting at Sea Rovers?

Ken can discuss his issues with Hull

Get business cards and contact info

We will have a poster on the BSC booth at Sea Rovers that says “Restore Coastal Access”, and another one for the room.

BSC Booth at Sea Rovers:

Paul Adler has a slide show available of pictures from last year’s BSC Treasure Hunt that he can show at the BSC Booth at Sea Rovers.

Stationary:

BSC is looking to get better stationary and envelopes. Several options were reviewed and one chosen.

Sanctuary:

Local communities can nominate National Marine Sanctuaries. Other sanctuaries are looking to enlarge, including the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary – Joe Hoyt will be at Sea Rovers.

National Monuments are more restrictive and have less process.

BUAR:

In process of designating underwater archeological preserve, historical site of 150 year old barkentine – White Squall - wrecked off Cape Cod, Wellfleet. There will be a 90 day public comment period. Looking to get info written up so would be “interpretable” dive site.

Other Items of Interest:

SSN members are diving every weekend – There is a number on their website – look this up

As of March 2, Bob Alves will be on the Gloucester Waterways Board and would like to know what can be done to improve situation. Jim D has been in contact and will see if he can come to the Sea Rovers meeting.

Old Colony Amphibians newsletter is very impressive.

In Canary Islands, someone is making an underwater museum, with statues, so you cannot see it without SCUBA.

The old Harwich School will be dropped as a reef in 35 ft of water about a mile offshore. Charter captain from Harwich wrote the proposal to the Seaport Council. Also uses money from the sportfish licenses (for public access projects) for sport fishing. They are putting regulations in place for no commercial fishing.

The tire reef in Yarmouth was re-permitted.

Action Items:

Theresa will send the SSN dive phone number to Michael Prange for the BSC website

Theresa will send Mary the Board list from the last State filing papers.

Next meeting: April 20.

BOARD meeting scheduled March 23. Notice to regular board members only to this meeting.