

Bay State Council of Divers

Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2016

Meeting held at the SSN's Clubhouse, Quincy, MA 7:44-9:30 PM

Attendees:

Paul	Adler	
John	Blackadar	SSN
Angelo	Correnti	SSN / BSC President
Theresa	Czerepica	SSN
Jim	D'Urso	NSF
Doug	Eaton	SSN
Mary	Howard	NSF / BSC Secretary
Tommy	Lo	SSN / BSC Treasurer
Vin	Malkoski	DMF / Sea Rovers
Ted	Maney	Salem State University
Vic	Mastone	BUAR
Jim	Nannery	MWDC
Ray	Porter	NSF

Organizations represented include:

MA Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF)
Board of Underwater Archeological Resources (BUAR)
North Shore Frogmen's Club (NSF)
Salem State University
Sea Rovers
South Shore Neptunes (SSN)

Vice President

We nominated Jim D'Urso to be vice president of the Bay State Council. If anyone else is interested, please attend the next meeting of the BSC and let us know.

Annual Report – Theresa will submit the annual reports for 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 this coming week.

Treasurer's report:

Tommy Lo gave a status report of the BSC treasury.

Legal:

John Blackadar spoke with Elizabeth (Betsy) Harling. Betsy will come to the next meeting. She suggested we ask Steve Coren to come to the meeting too, to discuss legal issues. She suggests we should address liability possibilities for board members. (D&O insurance? Cost?) We used to be a 501 3C. Current status? If we try to make legal changes, the status will change. A 501 3C can advocate, but cannot lobby.

History of the BSC:

John would like to put together a history of the council, but he has not had time to do that recently. We need that for a foundation for the council for when we start advocating for the Coastal Access issue.

Coastal Access Issue:

At Sea Rovers, Vinny and Ted arranged to have a room for discussion of the Coastal Access issue. Angelo gave some background info, noting that we were only talking about coastal access. There had been a trade-off between coastal and fresh water, in part to get backing from the western part of the state, so the “free the beaches” was only for salt water.

Talked a little about what our direction should be, what user groups we should “go after”. Maybe would meet in other areas once we have more groups involved. This won’t be a BSC group. In the beginning stages and open to all questions and interest.

Angelo met a person, **recently graduated from law school**; interested in possibly helping us out. He works in an environmental law firm.

Next steps:

Try to get those in the audience (at Sea Rovers) to get us info on user groups to try to grow the infrastructure. Doug’s daughter is a wind surfer, so she can give info on groups

AI: Mary was asked to and will forward the initial Coastal Access letter to all at the meeting tonight. (Done 4/20/16)

We need to get reach out to get the dive community involved. John has received almost nothing from anyone about user groups. We now have a list from the meeting at Sea Rovers.

We have reached out to some of the coastal towns. Some are very onboard (Hingham).

Jim D – Robert Alves is “interested in improving Gloucester’s relation to divers”. He went to his first “Water Board” meeting. Is the Water Board the right person? Does the water board control parking? Biggest issue is trying to get access to dive location. He says tell me what you want changed. Jim needs to meet with this Alves. If Jim can go as an individual and get some spaces, that would be great. Need to go to request a modification of their signs that says non-resident parking is allowed for some range of dates.

FACEBOOK: Jim N: suggests that we start a Facebook page to disseminate info. Someone will need to handle the incoming information from the Facebook page. The Neptunes have someone (Rich Bowers, Rob Vice) who could set up the page. Need to get content – including videos, pictures, info, that will need to be changed, updated regularly. Can we get someone to do it right, or do we have to pay someone?

If we have someone from each club, when you see a problem with a dive site, take a picture and post it.

Angelo will speak with Rob Vice to get a Facebook page set up. We will discuss at the next BSC meeting. Who will do what, who will monitor, who will receive emails from interested parties?

World Oceans Day June 5 (Sunday) at the Aquarium

What the BSC gets to do at this event is what the bylaws state: Education. Also exposure. We need to attract more kids. Coloring book page about diving or ocean-related
Hand out the letter << find out if that's okay – Ted will make sure we can distribute the letter
Helmet and small give-aways
Plan to have various dive groups in the same area of the tent.
How to get into diving? – have a slide show?
Handout with dive shop list, club list, BSC website and BSC facebook page

Shipwreck?

The Republic? It is way off the coast of Nantucket, “all speculation”.

Plaque is with John B. He is waiting for Coast Guard. Jim N is making the attachment bolts and will check into what “glue” to use.

NSF: Sunday June 26 1-6PM, NSF will have a dive show, will have Richie Kohler RE diving the Britannic. Andy Martinez showing Indonesia slides. Ted Maney about shark diving. At the Holy Ghost, Howley St., Peabody. Will have some booths. THERE HAS BEEN A DATE CHANGE FOR THIS. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

SSN: Sunday July 16 AT 4-ish in Canton, Irish Cultural Center – Pig Roast = divers' get-together.

Fish count is Saturday July 23.

Next meeting: May 25.