

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Partnership Office, 408 Atlantic Avenue
2nd floor conference room, Boston, MA
June 6, 2007, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Peter Rosen and Claudia Smith-Reid, Co-Chairs, welcomed all. The passing of John “Sam” Sapiel was recognized. The minutes of the March 7 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Advisory Council Priorities

The council reviewed the purpose of the Advisory Council, which is to advise and make recommendations to the Partnership on the development and implementation of the park’s general management plan. It was noted that the council has been rather stagnant in the last year or two. Bruce Jacobson said that the council was very active during the planning process for the park’s general management plan and that some members remain engaged through their attendance at committee meetings. He encouraged members to participate in the 5 working committees of the Partnership: education & program committee; events & marketing committee ; finance & legislation committee; operations committee; and planning committee. The council recognized the importance of participating in committees and plans to work on ways to encourage members to attend and report back to the council as a whole.

Council members reviewed past projects: a 2002 work plan; a 2003 community outreach program; and, a 2006 strategic plan review.

Council members discussed preparing an annual “park report card”. This report would be an off-shoot of the 2006 strategic plan review. Since the park does not have a current strategic plan to review, the council will take a look at the stated goals on the old report and determine what still needs work. They also plan to identify issues that are not addressed in the strategic plan and that are important to the general public to recommend them as priorities for the Partnership. Opening Gallops Island, restoring the chapel on Peddocks, and attending to the neglected state-owned cottages were identified as issues needing the attention of the Partnership.

The timeline for the report card project was determined:

September 5 meeting – outline park report card project and assign people to specific tasks.
September to October – members gather information for report card.
October or November – hold a working session, finalize report card.
December 5 meeting – approve report card.
January 15 meeting of the Partnership – present report card to Partnership.

Council members discussed the status Island Alliance branding initiative. It was the sense of the committee that they will request that the Island Alliance branding contractor seek input from the Advisory Council, whose vehicle might be a workshop.

There was also some discussion about the council continuing to do community outreach. Some individuals remain engaged in helping with public programming, and involvement was encouraged, but there were differing opinions if it should be identified as a major initiative of the council. There was general agreement that it was a core mission of the

council for members to communicate park issues to their organizations or constituencies and then return the feedback they gather back to the park.

Park Update

Bruce Jacobson, NPS, reported that the finance and planning committees met to determine Partnership funding priorities. One hundred projects were rated, and the top projects were identified.

Bruce said that NPS and Island Alliance continue work on developing a concept plan for the Harbor Park Pavilion with the winner of the design contest. Building costs have risen dramatically, and the original concept that won the design competition can not be built for the \$3M that is available.

Bruce announced that the City of Boston plans to open a youth camp on Long Island this July. The camp will be run by Boston Boys and Girls Club and will service 600 youth ages 11-14 each summer. National Park Service and Thompson Island will provide some educational programming. Maria Freddura announced a fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club that will be held on June 14 at The Daily Catch on Fan Pier.

There was a question if there would be a Native American cultural event scheduled as part of the park programming this year. Bruce responded that they plan to have an event, but it will likely be of a smaller scope because there is no grant funding to support the event this year.

Council Business

Mary Raczko, NPS, explained that there was a delay in getting 2007 boat passes and identification passes. Harbor Express will still offer free passage for Advisory Council members that visit the island for work purposes, but at this time the system for boarding is unclear. Advisory Council members requested the badges for identification purposes, even if they won't serve as boat passes. Mary said they will be sent out in a week or two.

There was a suggestion that the Partnership host island tours to get council members more familiar with the islands.

Claudia Smith-Reid said that there was a need for the council to get more financial and administrative staff support. She proposed hosting a fundraiser through the Island Alliance. Mary Raczko reminded all that the Advisory Council is a federal entity and can not fundraise, and suggested that they further define what they wanted the extra administrative staff to do and what the money was needed for.

Next Meetings:

The next council meetings will be held:

September 5, 2007 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM

December 5, 2007 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM

March 5, 2008 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM (annual meeting)

Locations to be determined.

Public Comment

There was no additional public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
6/6/07 Meeting Attendance

VOTING MEMBERS and interest group

1. Jennifer Bender, ENV	
2. Kurt Bornheim, MUN	
3. Victor Brogna, COM	
4. Maureen Cavanaugh, B&C	X
5. Mary Corcoran, EDU	
6. Theresa Czerepica, COM	X
7. Peter Davidoff, B&C	
8. Sean Glennon, MUN	
9. Bill Hale, ADV	
10. Seth Kaplan, ENV	
11. Greg Ketchen, B&C	X
12. Steve Kirk, B&C	X
13. Dottie Merrill, EDU	X
14. Chris Montgomery, NA	X
15. Charlie Norris, ADV	
16. Pat Morss, EDU	X
17. Ed Norton, COM	
18. Karen O'Donnell, ENV	X
19. Linda Poolaw, NA	
20. Bill Reardon, MUN	
21. Peter Rosen, Co-Chair, EDU	X
22. Claudia Smith-Reid, Co-Chair, COM	X
23. Bettina Washington, NA	
24. Lauri Webster, ENV	
25. Matt Wolfe, ADV	
26. Vacant Seat, MUN	
27. Vacant Seat, ADV	
28. Vacant Seat, NA	

Interest Groups

ADV – Boston Harbor Related Advocacy
 B&C – Business & Commercial
 COM – Community Groups
 EDU – Education and Cultural
 ENV – Environmental Organizations
 MUN – Municipalities
 NA – Native American

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Ex officio (Education)

Russ Bowles	
Carl Johnson	X
David Weinstein	
Jack Wiggin	

Ex officio (Business & Commercial)

Maria Freddura	X
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Ex officio (Advocacy)

Vivien Li	
Suzanne Gall Marsh	

Ex officio (Environmental)

John Dinga	
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Ex officio (Municipalities)

Daniel Ryan Congressman Michael Capuano	
Kathy Melia Congressman William Delahunt	

Ex officio (Native American)

Edith Andrews	
Mary Anne Hendricks	
Gil Solomon	

OTHERS

Marc Albert, NPS	
Sheila Colwell, NPS	
Bruce Jacobson, NPS	X
Kelly Fellner, NPS	
Alex Hall, DCR	
Diane Haynes, IA	
Susan Kane, DCR	
Sue Lonergan, IA	
Steve Marcus, FBHI	X
Jim Peters, MCIA	
Tom Powers, IA	
Mary Raczko, NPS	X
Chuck Smythe, NPS	

MCIA – MA Commission on Indian Affairs

DCR – Department of Conservation and Recreation

FBHI – Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands

IA – Island Alliance

NPS – National Park Service