

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
Eighth Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 8, 1999
4:00 PM– 6:00 PM
Jury Room Two
United States Courthouse
One Courthouse Way, Boston

The eighth meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council was called to order by Jack Wiggin, Chair.

Seventeen of the 28 Advisory Council members were present (see attached attendance sheet).

Approval of the minutes from the December 3, 1998 and March 4, 1999

There was a motion to approve the December 3 minutes. **The motion was carried.**

Elizabeth Harrington asked that her presence be noted representing Bernice Mader, City of Quincy. Joe Ferrino asked that the third sentence in the paragraph regarding Snake Island be changed for clarification. He also requested that he and Mary Corcoran be recognized as bringing the request to the council. There was a motion to approve the March 4 minutes with the discussed changes. **The motion was carried.**

Opening Comments

Jack Wiggin opened the floor for comments on Alternative C. There was general support of Alternative C as it incorporated many of the recommendations of the Advisory Council.

Logan Airport

A representative from Massport introduced the plan to improve Logan Airport. The plan involved the construction of a runway that would help make the airport more efficient. This runway is expected to prevent delays that waste a lot of time and money, and help with air quality. He explained the need to mitigate impacts of the airport for the surrounding communities and the need for the traffic over the water. The specific impact on the park is mixed. Some islands will be affected less than they are now, such as Thompson and Spectacle Islands and the Brewsters; others will be affected more, such as Peddock's and Long Islands.

The floor was opened for comments. Suzanne Gall-Marsh questioned the reasoning that air traffic needs to be pushed over the water to protect communities, as the park is part of the community too. There was also the concern that an additional runway would mean more flights. The response was that Logan Airport would continue to grow related to demand and regardless of the runway. Phil Lemnios stated that the surrounding communities are all opposed to the expansion, even those that are reported to gain. Joe Ferrino added that the environmental impact from the planes is not just noise but also effects water and air quality. Rob Moir pointed out that some islands stood to gain from the new runway, that it would distribute the flights more evenly over the islands. Phil said that there are several issues that are not adequately defined or addressed in the environmental impact statement put out by Massport. There are other options, one of the alternative plans for the airport actually had a greater reduction in delay and could be achieved without a new runway or other airports could take the extra traffic. The legislation that

defined the park does not prevent the Advisory Council from commenting and Phil asked that the council take a vote to take action against the new runway proposal, as it would have a significant negative impact on the park. The public comment period ends on April 22.

There was discussion and it was agreed that the council would really need more information before it could take a vote for or against the runway. There was a motion made for the Advisory Council to oppose more net flights over the islands. **The motion was carried** with a vote of 11 yes, 3 abstain.

The discussion continued and Phil Lemnios made a motion for the Advisory Council to request that Massport withdrawal the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) until a more comprehensive analysis of the benefits and impacts the proposed runway and associated taxiway can be presented. **The motion was carried** with a vote of 10 yes, 1 no, 5 abstain.

Election

The environmental group nomination was finalized. John Lewis was nominated for the vacant seat and Marcie Tyre will move to ex-officio status. Her seat will be filled by either Seth Kaplan, CLF, or David Shakespeare, Boston Sea Kayak. The educational group nomination was finalized. Carlton Johnson, South Boston High School was nominated.

New Business

Suzanne Gall-March said that it is crucial to begin brainstorming on goals and a preliminary budget. The council needs to know what it wants to do in order to determine basic expenses.

George Price said that Boston Harbor Islands was asked to participate in a "Partners" program sponsored by the National Parks Conservation Association. The first meeting was also attended by Sha-King Alston, Environmental Diversity Forum, Jack Wiggin, Urban Harbors Institute and Edith Andrews because of her involvement with New Bedford parks. Claudia Smith-Reid, Roxbury Multi-Service Center and Jack Roberts, associated with Island Alliance were also invited. This task force is one of six nationwide under the direction of Bob Stanton, Director of the National Park Service (NPS) with Iantha Gantt-Wright as the Project Director. The objective is to support diversity, not simply in the hiring practices of the NPS, but also in audiences. George thought that this was a great opportunity to discuss the issue with Boston Harbor Islands because it is a new national park area without a lot of NPS history.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Meeting Schedule

Thursday, June 03, 1999, 6:00-8:00 PM
Thursday, September 9, 1999, 4:00-6:00 PM
Thursday, December 9, 1999, 6:00-8:00 PM
Thursday, March 2, 2000, 4:00-6:00 PM

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council

April 8, 1999 Meeting

Attendance

1. Sha-King Alston	
2. Edith Andrews	X
3. Regina Burke	
4. David Calnan	X
5. Stephen Comer	
6. Mary Corcoran	
7. Peter Davidoff	
8. John Dinga	X
9. Bernie Dreibratt	
10. Joe Ferrino	X
11. William Giezentanner	X
12. Carl Johnson	NM*
13. Seth Kaplan	
14. Greg Ketchen	X
15. Phil Lemnios	X
16. John Lewis	X
17. Vivien Li	X
18. Tom Lindberg	
19. Bernice Mader Represented by Elizabeth Harrington	EH
20. Suzanne Gall Marsh	X
21. Ed McCabe	X
22. Rob Moir	X
23. Sherman Morss	X
24. Karen O'Donnell	NM*
25. John Sam Sapiel	X
26. Claudia Smith-Reid	X
27. Lawrence Snake	
28. Jack Wiggin	X

*NM - New Member

(not yet established as a voting member)

Ex officio (education)

Nick Haddad	
Sukey Padawar	
David Weinstein	

Ex officio (municipalities)

Jim Cantwell Congressman William Delahunt	
Frederick Clark Congressman Joseph Moakley	
Jay Kiely Congressman Michael Capuano	
David Soule Metropolitan Area Planning Council	

Ex officio (Native American)

John Brown III	
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George Price	X
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Mary Gontaruk	X
Bruce Jacobson	X
Kathy Abbott	