

**MONITOR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting**

MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2018

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Meeting Location: Monitor National Marine Sanctuary Office
100 Museum Drive
Newport News, VA 23606

Meeting Objectives: (1) Updates; (2) Presentation of Volunteer of the Year Award (3) Updates to AC Charter.

Attendance: (see attached attendance roster)

8 community seats present (of 11 filled seats)

7 government seats present (of 7 filled seats (not including alternates))

6 sanctuary staff members present (of 8 staff)

Meeting Notes

Administrative Business and Announcements

★ Chair's Welcome

Jim Tobin welcomed everyone to the meeting and to those on the phone.

★ Approval of Draft Minutes from previous meeting (11/30)

Stuart Katz motioned for approval of minutes as is, Nathan Richards seconded. All in favor, motion to accept minutes into record passed.

★ Brief Council Member Update

Jason Peters was welcomed as the new NC Department of Environmental Quality representative, taking over you Michelle Duval. Jim Tobin appreciated previous meeting having Jeff Gray from TBNMS come and speak.

Reports

★ Superintendent's Update

Dave Alberg began his update by stating budget was a month out or so from final allotment, no longer in a continuing resolution. MNMS is divesting itself of SRVx *Sand Tiger* but picking up NOAA vessel *Peter Gladding* from the Florida Keys. Sean Cimilluca, NOAA Corp officer, is in charge of this process. Dave continued report with a brief update on the expansion process. Meetings with agencies, federal and state, have begun. Jim Tobin remarked that during the presentation to Dare County he felt as though MNMS staff have listened to their concerns, which were reflected in the presentation. In a response to a question from Jason Peters, Paul Ticco reiterated these talks still are on-going and everything presented at this agency meetings is still in draft form. Dave finished expansion update by stating the draft documents still need approval from NOAA before public hearings begin, but MNMS is continuing to meet with federal agencies and state and local governments regarding expansion to determine if there are any issues. In other news, Dave stated that the office now has a large outdoor movie screen that is ready to be used for outdoor events. Dave continued with details of other outreach events, including that in May, Tane and Dave will be attending burial ceremonies for the British Memorials of HMT *Bedfordshire* and *San Delfino* and will be meeting with British Naval attaches. Bobby Outten asked if it would be possible to have some presentations made available to SAC members to use in a pinch if they are called upon to make presentations. Will Sassorossi agreed to create some and make them available for the SAC to use.

Presentation of Volunteer of the Year Award

Dave Alberg gave an overview of the Volunteer of the Year award that is given by The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to an individual that has made outstanding contributions to their local National Marine Sanctuary during 2017. The nominee for Monitor National Marine Sanctuary was Ernie Foster. Ernie was nominated to represent MNMS for his collaborative work, helping to expand and open dialogue with the recreational fishing communities in and around Hatteras, NC. Nominees will be honored at a Gala in Washington, D.C., with The NMS Foundation announcing the national award winner later in May. This individual, chosen from all the sanctuary nominees, will have travel arranged in order to attend and speak at the Gala. Ernie will be honored again by MNMS at another date as he was unable to attend in person for this meeting. Ernie responded that he was honored by the nomination and excited to keep working to keep the lines of communication open between working watermen and the sanctuary.

Public Comment Period

None.

Updates to AC Charter

Will Sassorossi started the discussion by stating the MNMS Advisory Council Charter is up for renewal on July 24, 2018. Preliminary work on reviewing and updating the charter has begun and the SAC was notified to bring any updates to the meeting. The main update discussed was how to improve or alter the current youth seat. Multiple ideas were expressed by the SAC ultimately it was decided to amend the youth seat to incorporate a wider range of ages, and change the name to a “student seat”. Will finished the report and discussion by stating he would include all of these notes and finalize the updated seat requirements and disseminate the results to the SAC for final review.

Reports (Continued)

★ Field Work Update

Joe Hoyt gave report for upcoming plans for the 2018 field season. Beginning with work with the Battle of the Atlantic Research and Expedition Group (BAREG) Joe, Tane Casserley, Sean Cimilluca and Will Sassorossi will assist documentation of the wreck of *British Splendour*, working out of Ocracoke, NC. There will also be two weeks utilizing the NOAA vessel *Nancy Foster*, which the Ops team will be on in August, working with National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) out of Beaufort. Wrecks of interest for that project will be *LV-71* and *Merak*, both WW1 casualties, as well as some deep water wreck sites that will utilize ROV work.

★ Conservation Update

Will Hoffman described the conservation focus that includes partnering with Newport News Shipyard to raise and re-support the turret for additional conservation procedures. This will be part of a four year conservation plan. Other efforts included digitizing the Monitor collection and laser scanning the turret. The laser scan of the turret will be available on Sketchfab, along with other artifacts from the collection. A new analytical chemist has also been brought onto the team to work in the lab.

Meeting Close-Out

★ New Business

None.

★ Next Council Event/Meeting

To be determined at a later date, looking into early fall 2018 for next meeting.

Adjourn

Joe Poe motioned to adjourn, seconded by Debby Boyce. Meeting adjourned.

Meeting Close-Out

Actions to Take:

- ✓ Send out options for next meeting date and location.
- ✓ Continue the recruitment process for expired SAC seats.
- ✓ Fill remaining vacant SAC seats for governmental positions.
- ✓ Send SAC members presentations to use as needed.
- ✓ Update Charter with new language for youth seat.

Attendance Roster:

Community Members		
Jim Tobin	Citizen-at-Large	Present
Sarah Watkins-Kenney	Conservation	Present
Stuart Katz	Economic Development	Present
OPEN	Education	-----
Andre Nabors	Heritage Tourism	Absent
Nathan Richards	Maritime Archaeological Research	Present
Ernie Foster	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Present
Anna Beckwith	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Absent
Debby Boyce	Recreational Diving	Present
Joe Poe	Recreational Diving	Present
Matt Landrum	Ocean Sports	Absent
OPEN	The Mariners' Museum	-----
Will Hoffman	The Mariners' Museum (Alt)	Present
OPEN	Youth Seat (Non-Voting)	-----
Government Members		
Dave Hallac	NPS (Primary)	Present
OPEN	NPS (Alternate)	-----
Billy Ray Morris	NC DCR (Primary)	Present
OPEN	NC DCR (Alternate)	-----
Jason Peters	NC Dept. Environmental Quality	Present
OPEN	NC Dept. Environmental Quality (Alt)	-----
OPEN	NC Local Gov't – (Town/City/County)	-----
OPEN	NC Local Gov't – (Town/City/County)	-----
Bobby Outten	NC Local Gov't – Dare County	Present
Drew Pearson	NC Local Gov't – Dare county (Alt)	Present
LCDR Patricia Bennett	US Coast Guard	Present
Kate Moore	US Coast Guard (Alt)	Absent
Robert Neyland	US Navy	Present
Alexis Catsambis	US Navy (Alt)	Absent
Greg LaBudde	VA DHR	Present
Mike Clem	VA DHR (Alt)	Absent

Sanctuary Staff		
David Alberg	Sanctuary Superintendent	Present
Paul Ticco	Northeast Regional Coordinator	Present
Joe Hoyt	Maritime Archaeologist	Present
Tane Casserley	Research Coordinator	Present
Will Sassorossi	SAC Coordinator	Present
David Dodsworth	IT Coordinator	Absent
Shannon Ricles	Education/Outreach Coordinator	Absent
Sean Cimilluca	NOAA Corp Officer	Present
Others/Public		