

**MONITOR NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**  
**Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting – Virtual/Conference Call**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, October 14, 2022

10:30 am to 12:00 pm

Meeting Location: N/A (Virtual – Google Meets)

**Meeting Objectives:** (1) Sanctuary Updates and Projects and (2) SAC Announcements and Comments

**Attendance:** (see attached attendance roster)

5 community seats (of 13 filled seats (not including alternate))

6 government seats present (of 8 filled seats (not including alternates))

6 sanctuary staff members present

**Meeting Notes**

**Administrative Business and Announcements**

**Chair's Welcome**

Joe Poe (SAC Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Council Comment**

Joe Poe sought comment from the council for any remarks or questions. No comments were made

**Approval of Draft Minutes from previous meeting (10/14/2022)**

Shannon Ricles (SAC, Education and Outreach Coordinator) asked council members if there were any revisions or edits to the draft of the minutes from the May 23 (2022) meeting.

Hearing none, a motion to accept the minutes was requested, seconded, and all were in favor of approval of the minutes.

**Sanctuary Updates**

**OBX Seafood Festival**

Shannon Ricles talked about the upcoming OBX Seafood Festival happening on October 15 in Nags Head, North Carolina. She said that the new exhibit trailer will be unveiled for the

event and it should make a huge splash. Shannon also said that Chris Southerly and Rosie Blewitt with the NC Office of State Archaeology would be joining the event bringing artifacts and other items to share with the public. Shannon invited all SAC members to stop by if in the area, and if they wanted to volunteer during the event, to let her know.

### Superintendent Update

Sammy Orlando (Sanctuary Superintendent) said that the federal budget is in a continuing resolution (CR) through December 16. With a CR, the sanctuary's spending is limited to mandatory and essential spending only. Things are good, and there are no foreseen issues. Sammy said that everyone hopes a 2023 budget will be approved soon, but until then, we will continue to move forward.

Sammy also reviewed the top three items from the exercise "One More Thing" conducted at the May 23 SAC meeting. They were education, outreach/tourism, and new technology. To see a complete list of the ideas generated by the activity, see page 6 of the [May 23 minutes](#). Sammy said that as the SAC moves forward, we need to determine a plan for the SAC that will include these items and more. It is important for the SAC to be engaged with not only the site, but also with their constituents.

Trish Murphy introduced herself on the call and said that she was the North Carolina seat representative for the South Atlantic Fisheries and is in Moorhead City, North Carolina.

### Monitor 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries – Tane Casserley

Tane Casserley (Research, Resource Protection and Permit Coordinator) noted that the recent 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event held by ONMS celebrated the signing of the Sanctuary Act in 1972. However, the first sanctuary, Monitor NMS, did not come into being until January 30, 1975. Therefore, MNMS will be honoring the USS *Monitor* as the nation's first national marine sanctuary with a 3-year campaign. During 2023, the *Monitor*'s discovery will be honored; in 2024, we will celebrate the confirmation of the shipwreck as indeed the *Monitor*; and the campaign will end in 2025 with the designation of the shipwreck as a sanctuary. All throughout the campaign, we will also showcase how USS *Monitor* is still serving the nation today, as well as the cutting-edge technology in use to continue to learn more about the ship and its crew. Tane talked about developing a vision and a plan for the campaign with the help of the SAC.

Tane went over the anniversary timeline:

- August 27, 1973 – first of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary dates as it marks the discovery of USS *Monitor*.
- March 8, 1974 – After much studying of the images and sonar collected during the August expedition, it was announced that *Monitor* had been found. The U.S. Navy used the *Seaprobe* in April 1974, to create the first photomosaic of *Monitor*.
- January 30, 1975 – Designation of USS *Monitor* as our nation's first national marine sanctuary.

Tane explained that we want to put the spotlight back on *Monitor* and see what lessons we can learn. And what new audiences we can reach, while re-engaging with our partners, such as The Mariners' Museum and Park (TMM&P) with an in-person event in January to include the SAC. In addition, the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum is an important partner, and they are building out a new exhibit that will include *Monitor* content. The exhibit should open in about a year. Tane also said that a new trail sign has been installed at the front of Graveyard museum honoring World War II history. There is also an exhibit at the NC Aquarium on Roanoke Island that features the *Monitor* called Ironclad Sanctuary that includes a ¼ scale *Monitor* shipwreck in a large tank containing sand tiger sharks.

Tane said that these were just a few examples, but asked who else can we partner with for events. He said that we want to look at the Hampton Roads area with the Hampton Roads Naval Museum in Norfolk, and explore ways to engage the Blue Star Families.

Tane explained that we need to create a vision and a plan through the help of the SAC. Maybe create a working group to flush out ideas and develop strategies on how to reach many using social media. He said it would be an exciting push for the next three years!

Joe Poe asked everyone to think about the possibilities for anniversary events and other ways to put MNMS front and center over the next three years. He said if anyone had ideas to contact himself, Shannon, or Tane and let them know if you want to be on a working group. He said it was a great opportunity to learn more as well. He asked if there was anyone who wanted to volunteer to chair the working group.

Alexis Catsambis (Naval History and Heritage Command) asked if Tane had reached out to the Hampton Roads Naval Museum to make contact. He offered to make introductions. Tane asked for Alexis to send him his contact and that MNMS would love to work with them in either education, outreach, or other ways. Alexis said he will make the introduction.

Joe said that it was a great opportunity for the SAC to be involved personally. Bucky Oliver said that he will be in touch as he knows of six target points in the Beaufort Community.

Joe explained that the SAC has had working groups in the past and he welcomes SAC ideas on what they should look like for the future. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign gives the SAC an opportunity to do that now.

#### *Education Working Group – Stephanie Sterling*

Stephanie Sterling (Student Seat) reported out on the first education working group meeting held virtually with Sal Mercogliano, Shannon, and herself. Stephanie explained that the group explored ideas for the addition of a Youth Working Group to the SAC, which would consist of 5-20 students between the ages of 13-18 who would participate in a meeting and/or event once a quarter. The students would develop a mission plan on conservation and environmental stewardship and report out to the SAC at meetings. Ideas were also explored on increasing Ocean Guardian School participation in both North Carolina and Virginia.

Sal and Stephanie both work with Historical Black Colleges and Universities, and ideas for possible ways to engage them were discussed. In the New Year of 2023, Stephanie suggested that we look at [ECU Water Resources Center](#) for more ideas to engage students, teachers, and the public.

Sammy said that he is looking forward to working with the SAC members both individually and collectively over the next three years with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries. He said that there are lots of steps, including conservation and the recreation of artifacts, and how that will play in the media. He explained that we will need to look at the calendar and work as a team to determine the best way to leverage dates and to determine which activities and events make the most sense to go to. Sammy said that the SAC will be an important part of the process. We will be working to rebrand and looking for ways to bring it to life in the communities. Each SAC member represents a community partner and we want each of you to be a part of it.

### **Advisory Council Member Comments and Announcements**

- Tane shared an [article](#) about NCCOS's ongoing project looking at shipwrecks as habitats. It's about the process – hard core science mapping the *Monitor*.

### **Public Comments**

- None

### **Advisory Council Member Comments and Announcements**

- Bucky Oliver asked what's the controlling factor to have the meeting live. Tane explained that we are hoping to have an in-person SAC meeting and that we are working with the museum's conservation team. The idea is to get everyone to the museum to see the USS *Monitor* Center and the artifacts. Joe asked about travel expenses. Sammy said that it is frustrating as we do not have the budget for travel expenses. Sammy said that we are relying on the survey for days of the week and we will offer the SAC meeting in the late morning and wrapping up by early afternoon (3-4-hour block of time) so people can travel safely.
- Joe said that he really wanted to get people's ideas for working group committees. Anniversaries are over the next three years, so think about it and let him know your ideas.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

Joe Poe made the motion to adjourn and the motion was seconded. All were in favor of adjourning.

**Meeting Close-Out**

Actions to Take:

- ✓ Send Joe Poe ideas for possible working group committees for upcoming anniversaries.

**Attendance Roster:**

<b>Community Members</b>		
Jim Tobin	Citizen-at-Large	Absent
Kim Kenyon	Conservation	Absent
Tom Kies	Economic Development	Absent
Salvatore Mercogliano	Education	Absent
Andre Nabors	Heritage Tourism	Absent
Nathan Richards	Maritime Archaeological Research	Present
K.P. Scott, III	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Absent
Rom Whitaker	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Absent
Joe Poe	Recreational Diving	Present
Kamau Sadiki	Recreational Diving	Present
Debby Boyce	Ocean Sports	Absent
Will Hoffman	The Mariners' Museum	Present
Tina Gutshall	The Mariners' Museum (Alt)	Present
Stephanie Sterling	Student Seat (Non-Voting)	Absent
<b>Government Members</b>		
Dave Hallac	NPS (Primary)	Absent
OPEN	NPS (Alternate)	-----
Chris Southerly	NC DCR (Primary)	Present
OPEN	NC DCR (Alternate)	-----
Jason Peters	NC Dept. Environmental Quality	Present
Steve Poland	NC Dept. Environmental Quality (Alt)	Absent
Charles "Bucky" Oliver	NC Local Gov't – Town of Beaufort	Present
Bob Terwilliger	NC Local Gov't – Town of Beaufort (Alt)	Absent
Bobby Outten	NC Local Gov't – Dare County	Absent
Drew Pearson	NC Local Gov't – Dare county (Alt)	Absent
LCDR Matthew Kahley	US Coast Guard	Present
Kate Moore	US Coast Guard (Alt)	Absent
Robert Neyland	US Navy	Absent
Alexis Catsambis	US Navy (Alt)	Present
Brendan Burke	VA DHR	Present
Samantha Henderson	VA DHR (Alt)	Absent
<b>Sanctuary Staff</b>		
Paul "Sammy" Orlando	Superintendent	Present
Tane Casserley	Research/Resource/Permit Coordinator	Present
David Dodsworth	IT Coordinator	Present
Shannon Ricles	Education/Outreach/SAC Coordinator	Present
Mark Losavio	Media/Outreach Coordinator	Present
Megan Ossmann	Science/Research/Interpretation Specialist	Present
Guests/ Public/Other	Trish Murphy – NC Seat on South Atlantic Fisheries	Present