

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

MEETING MINUTES

November 30, 2017

2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

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

Meeting Objectives: (1) Updates; (2) Presentation by Jeff Gray, TBNMS; (3) Updates to MNMS Expansion.

Attendance: (see attached attendance roster)

9 community seats present (of 11 filled seats)

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

7 sanctuary staff members present (of 7 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 (6/23)

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

★ Brief Council Member Update

No updates reported.

Reports

★ Superintendent's Update

Dave Alberg began his update by stating there was no new information regarding the budget for FY2018. MNMS is welcoming a new addition to the staff, Sean Cimiluca, NOAA Corp

officer, who will start in January, 2018. Continuing report, new curriculum guides created by Shannon Ricles are out, including themes for USS *Monitor*, Maritime Archaeology, Battle of the Atlantic (WW2) and World War One. Grant was approved to purchase outdoor movie screen; Billy Ray Morris asked if there was a way to collaborate on events, and Dave replied “absolutely.” Further updates included upcoming meetings with the NC Artificial Reef program, dealing with MNMS Expansion issues. Further discussion took place later in the meeting on that subject. Dave also mentioned the progress being made on Monitor trail signs as well as the MOCA exhibit in Virginia Beach.

★ Field Work Recap

Joe Hoyt gave report for the 2017 field season that was busier than originally anticipated. Beginning with work with the Battle of the Atlantic Research and Expedition Group (BAREG) Joe and Will Sassorossi assisted with documentation of the wreck of *F.W. Abrams*, working out of Ocracoke, NC. Other completed projects included the continuation of the North Carolina wind energy area study with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). A few days off of Kitty Hawk, NC and then two weeks working out of Wilmington, NC, finalized the field work portion for this project, with photogrammetry being the main focus. There was also two weeks utilizing the NOAA vessel *Nancy Foster*, which Will and Tane Casserley were on in August, working with National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) out of Beaufort. Wrecks of interest for that project included U-352, HMT *Bedfordshire*, USS *Schurz*, *Ashkhabad* and *W.E. Hutton*.

★ 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. As part of the latest conservation efforts a bone handled knife was a new find. Will concluded his report stating tank for the turret will also be drained over the course of the summer and tours will be allowed to go inside for those that are interested.

Public Comment Period

No one from the public spoke up at this time.

Presentation by Jeff Gray, Superintendent, Thundery Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Superintendent Jeff Gray spoke to the SAC in an effort to familiarize council members with the efforts up in Thunder Bay, MI, as well as describing the expansion process TBNMS underwent not too long ago. Jeff highlighted the vital interaction between the town of Alpena, MI and the sanctuary did not necessarily start out as such, but grew over time. Building relationships with the local community was vital to expansion and continued success of sanctuary research and outreach. Jim Tobin remarked that he was interested in the relationship building at the schools as well as the pride it seemed members of the community felt in their sanctuary. Jim also asked about challenges faced and Jeff reiterated it came back

to open and honest dialogue as well as being heavily involved in the community. Jeff finished by extending an open invitation to any SAC member to come visit and get first hand experiences.

Update on MNMS Expansion

Dave Alberg began update by reiterating that National Marine Sanctuaries is a unique entity and that each sanctuary site is different and special in their own way, and while TBNMS may have many similarities to MNMS, it is also has many differences. Current proposed areas will all be outside of state (North Carolina) waters but should include partnership from state and local communities. These will be vital participants, as they have been, as the expansion process goes forward. Dave continued update by stating documents for expansion (draft environmental impact statement and draft management plan) were in various stages of review. Maintaining access to fishing is important. Ed Lindeolf mentioned that the regulations, while still in draft form, were developed to highlight value of the cultural resources (shipwrecks) and to keep them protected; not to influence fishing. Dave mentioned again, in closing, that this is still an on-going process and to stay involved with any questions members may have.

Meeting Close-Out

★ New Business

Sarah Watkins-Kenney gave an update that John Mintz was now the new NC State Archaeologist.

★ Next Council Event/Meeting

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

Adjourn

Jim Tobin motioned to adjourn, seconded by Matt Landrum. 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.

Attendance Roster:

Community Members		
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Jim Tobin	Citizen-at-Large	Present
Sarah Watkins-Kenney	Conservation	Present
Stuart Katz	Economic Development	Present
David Sybert	Education	Present
Andre Nabors	Heritage Tourism	Present
Nathan Richards	Maritime Archaeological Research	Present
Ernie Foster	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Present
Anna Beckwith	Recreational/Commercial Fishing	Present
Debby Boyce	Recreational Diving	Present
Joe Poe	Recreational Diving	Absent
Matt Landrum	Ocean Sports	Present
John Quarstein	The Mariners' Museum	Absent
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)	-----
Michelle Duval	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)	Absent
LCDR Patricia Bennett	US Coast Guard	Present
Kate Moore	US Coast Guard (Alt)	Absent
Robert Neyland	US Navy	Absent
Alexis Catsambis	US Navy (Alt)	Present
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 Sessorosi	SAC Coordinator	Present
David Dodsworth	IT Coordinator	Present
Shannon Ricles	Education/Outreach Coordinator	Present
Others/Public		
Ed Lindeolf	NOAA NOS	
Jackie Roller	Attorney, NOAA General Council	
Jeff Gray	Superintendent, TBNMS	