

PUBLIC INTEREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PIAC) MEETING
Tuesday, December 4, 2007, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, WHOI Carriage House

SUMMARY

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Patty Foley, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay (chair); Bruce Berman, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay (alt.); and Sal Genovese, Safer Waters in MA.

Observers: Ben Lasley, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay; Matt Liebman, EPA; Andrea Rex, MWRA; Larry Schafer, MWRA WAC; and Cathy Vakalopoulos, MassDEP.

MEETING SUMMARY

P. Foley and B. Berman are concerned about the continued attrition of PIAC members and the infrequency of OMSAP meetings. B. Berman thinks that it is important that the interested parties stay informed in case there is a harmful event in Boston Harbor or Massachusetts Bay. P. Foley said that they have spoken to the new executive director of the Center for Coastal Studies, Rich Delaney, and he will become involved with PIAC. P. Foley and C. Vakalopoulos will work on contacting Ed Bretschneider (WAC), Joe Favaloro (MWRA Advisory Board), Pricilla Brooks (CLF), Heidi Richie (Audubon), Billy Spitzer (New England Aquarium), and Tara Nye (Association to Preserve Cape Cod).

B. Berman asked about the new discharge permit. M. Liebman replied that the new permit will not be addressed until the blending enforcement case is completed. B. Berman said that working under the current expired permit is fine because of all of the monitoring that is currently required. He added that PIAC has been pushing for more OMSAP meetings. The group then discussed how Steve Tucker has moved on from the Cape Cod Commission to a Cape Cod fisherman's organization. C. Vakalopoulos will find out which one. Perhaps the PIAC charter will allow adding another member from another organization. P. Foley asked S. Genovese if he can check to see if Salem CoastWatch has any interest in joining PIAC.

B. Berman asked if MWRA is planning to ask for a change in monitoring. A. Rex replied that it depends on how long it takes to have a new permit and how that relates to the renewal schedule for their monitoring contracts. The group then discussed future agenda topics. A. Rex said that there are a lot of Boston Harbor data. B. Berman thinks it would be good to hear about Boston Harbor at a future meeting.

PIAC members were present at the OMSAP meeting earlier in the day and there was no additional discussion on the topics reviewed. At the OMSAP meeting, there was a MWRA monitoring review, and red tide, chlorophyll and *Phaeocystis* exceedances were discussed.

PIAC approved the August 8, 2006 meeting summary with no amendments.

ADJOURNED