



2017 Annual President's Report

January 15, 2018

This report summarizes the activities of Friends of Barnstable Harbor in 2017.

Directors & By-Laws:

There were no changes to our By Laws in 2017. We added two new directors: Jeanne Willis and Brit Lay.

Youth Education Project: yep!:

The 2018 goal is to run 6 – 8 trips with English Language Learners from Barnstable High School. In addition, we are working to involve students from the Sturgis Charter School in this spring's trips.

Brit Lay has assumed the position of chair for this committee and project.

Events/ Harbor Management Plan:

This past May we hosted an event at the Tales of Cape Cod. Provincetown's Center for Coastal Studies Mark Borrelli presented information on sediment transports and the formation of "little neck" behind Sandy Neck Point.

His presentation morphed into information on Benthic Habitat Mapping, a project that he has performed in Pleasant Bay and Wellfleet Bay. We will be learning more about Benthic Habitat Mapping and its benefits for Barnstable Harbor.

Survey:

A "Survey Monkey" survey was distributed via email to approximately 280 FOBH members and to 618 Facebook followers. A total of 60 responses were received. Respondents felt that the two most pressing issues for FOBH are Planning & Development and Environmental Concerns (including storm water runoff and invasive species). A total of 57 respondents felt that a Benthic Habitat Mapping was an interesting idea, with almost half of those indicating that the project is one that should be pursued. The other major area supported by respondents was the FOBH Lecture Series.

Coastal Resiliency:

This year's *Annual Cape Coastal Conference* topic was Coastal Resiliency in the face of climate change and sea level rise. As always, not only does this conference offer a great deal of information on issues that impact all of Cape Cod it is an opportunity to convene with community leaders and other non-profits.

Further, I was invited to participate in a "Resilient Cape Cod Stakeholders: Cape Cod Bay" working group. The first of three meetings was held in December, and will be followed up by two more meetings. These meetings are an opportunity for stakeholders to offer their perspectives on how to best address coastal resiliency issues for each stakeholder. Solutions range from short term ones such as beach nourishment, armouring and natural barriers, to long term policy and zoning decisions.

New Business:

Brit Lay has met with Dr. Peter Sampou from the Sturgis Public Charter School. Dr. Sampou is putting together a plan for his students to participate in yep!.

Peter Eleftherakis has volunteered to be our "town liaison".

We have scheduled an event for January 25th, 7pm at Tales of Cape Cod. Mark Borrelli will present his Benthic Habitat Mapping project so that we can learn if this will work as part of our Harbor Blue Print.

We are forming a committee to address storm-water run-off in the village.

Upcoming Events:

Jonathan Brink, Hyannis Whale Watch Naturalist is prepared to teach us about the American Eel this coming February.

Creek Clean-ups:

Keep your eye out for another "creek clean-up" in the village. If the weather cooperates, we hope to schedule a clean-up for late winter.

Thank you to all that are Friends of Barnstable Harbor!

Submitted by: Avery Revere, President

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