



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



100 CAMBRIDGE ST., BOSTON, MA 02202 617-727-3180 FAX 727-9402

William F. Weld
GOVERNOR

Argeo Paul Cellucci
LT. GOVERNOR

Trudy Coxe
SECRETARY

Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, January 19, 1994 at the Dillaway Thomas House at Roxbury Heritage Park, Roxbury, MA.

Members present - Michael Last and Sally Bell. Absent - Carol Lash and John Capone. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith, and Aaron Toffler of Pickett & Miyares.

Item 1 was deferred to 12:30pm; at this time Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith presented the ORV Criteria for an official vote. Commissioner Webber stated changes were made from comments in the October meeting:

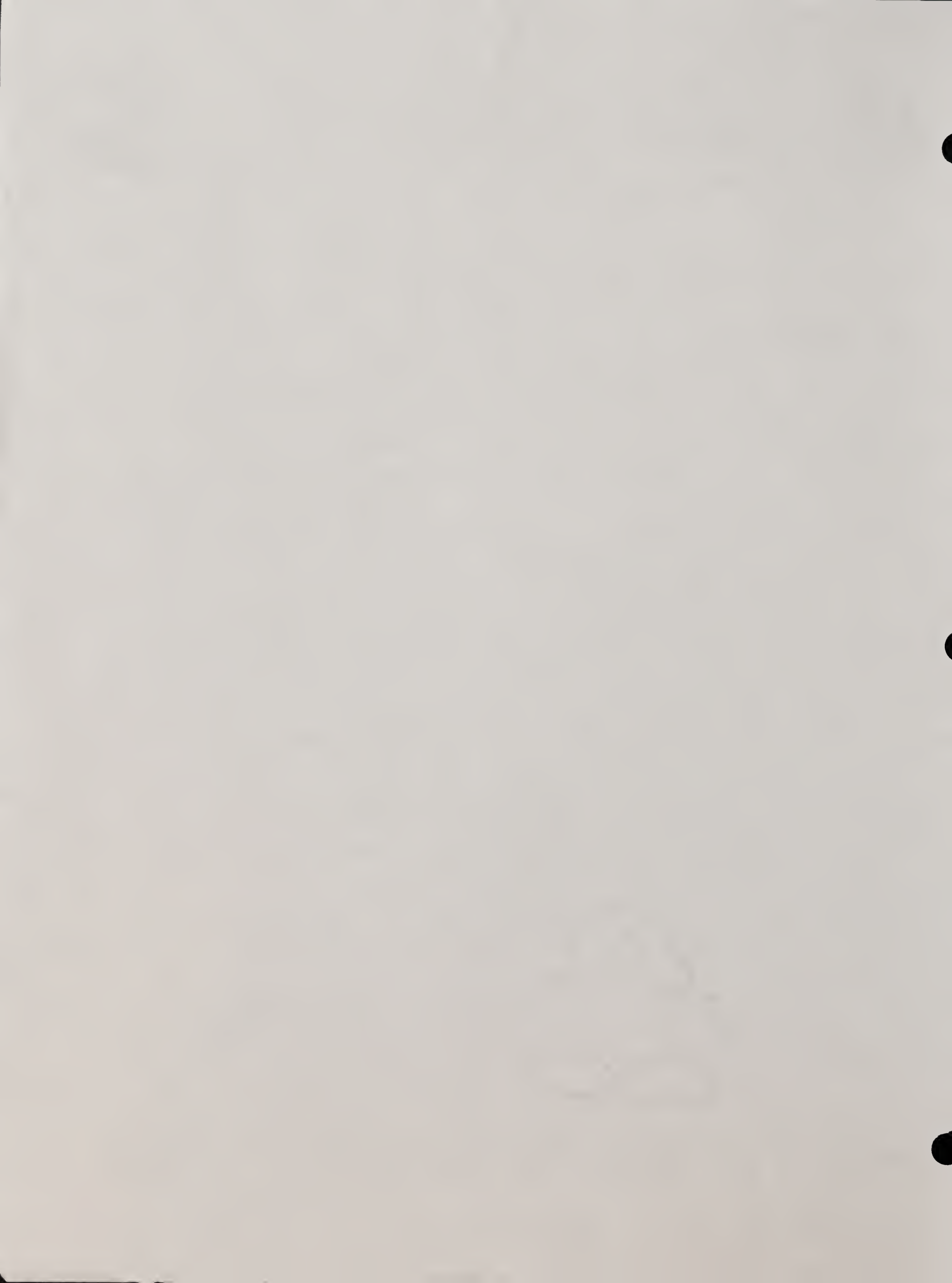
1. Presumption against making repairs or reconstructing trails was removed.
2. Criteria was being applied informally to all five facilities: Myles Standish, Georgetown, Otter-River, Brimfield and Pittsfield.
3. Apply and enforce existing regulations.

At 12:20pm Michael Last called the meeting to order, Sally Bell seconded. The Board was able to reach Carol Lash and John Capone for a conference call to vote on Item 2.

Upon the motion of Sally Bell, seconded by John Capone the November 18, 1993 ORV Criteria changes by Andrea Lukens were unanimously approved. Carol Lash would like it to be noted on the record that this is a policy issue not an endorsement.

Upon the motion of Sally Bell, seconded by Carol Lash Item 1 was unanimously voted to approve the November 18, 1993 minutes.

Item 3 on the agenda was a discussion on DEM's capital rehab and open space/land acquisition programs, led by Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith. Peter Smith distributed an FY'94 list of Capital Projects. He reported that \$4 million was assigned as rehab. money for 200 facilities/280 acres relative to need, but roughly 5 million was spent by benefit of slippage funds. Salisbury built a new contact station, Bradley Palmer fixed the wading facility and an architect was hired to



design a comfort station for families and children. DEM also built a comfort station in Walden Pond designed for year round use. Peter Smith informed the Board that slippage funds were made available for projects that have not gone forward, however there is still great need for funding.

Last year, the department created and reviewed a list of backlog projects so the department could have a better understanding of where to distribute the funds.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion on the Land Acquisition Program by Peter Smith. He distributed a handout explaining the land acquisition process and explained the allocation of \$5.2 million dollars has increase over the last several months. The prices are low therefore making it a good opportunity to purchase and preserve these parcels of land.

A second handout was distributed evaluating the program. The land is first reviewed and then matched with the Secretary's goals. A group meets, reviews and evaluates the land and once approved appraisals begin.

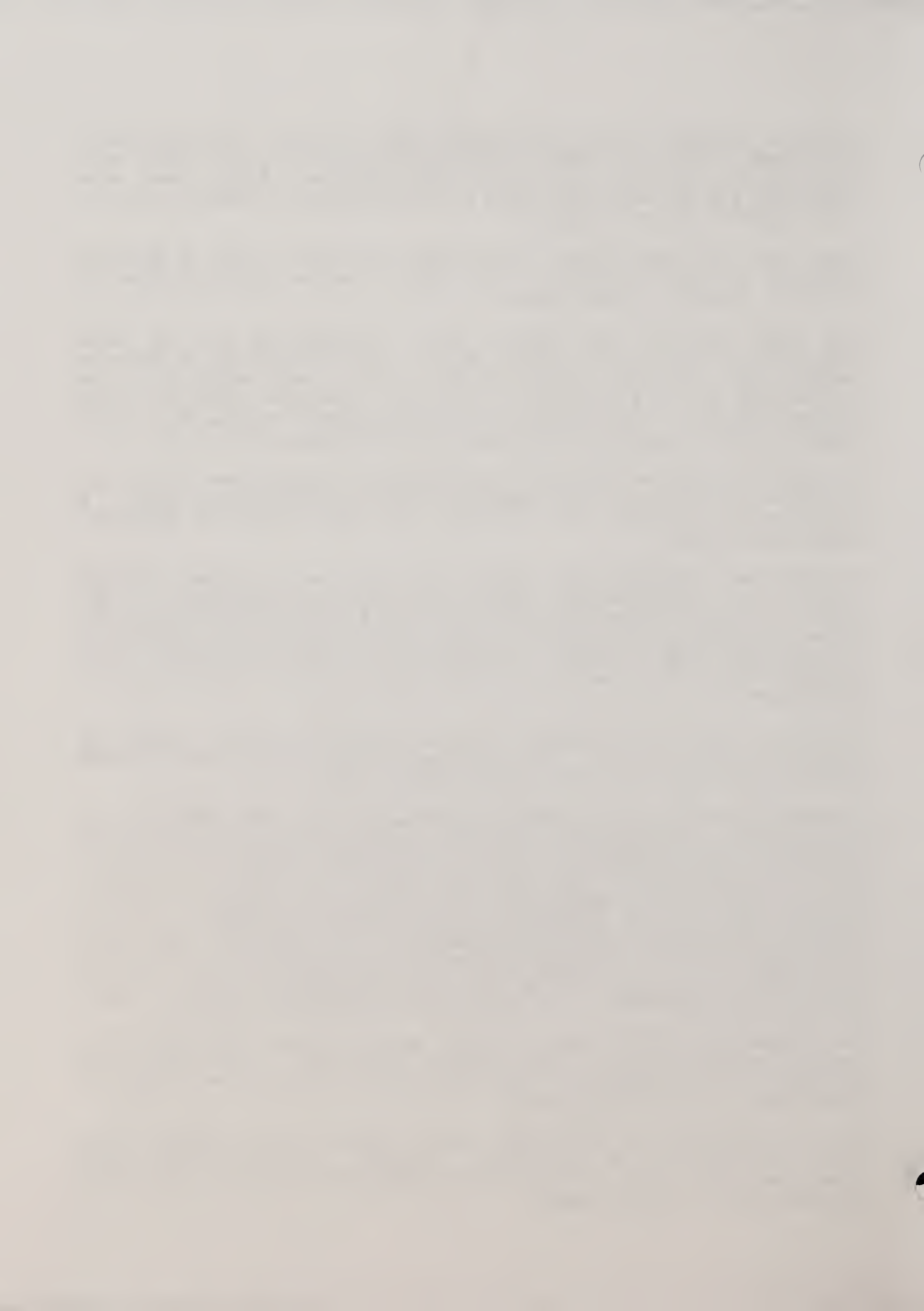
Michael Last inquired about the Mt. Tom Ski area as a possible DEM acquisition. Commissioner Webber stressed the importance of the site to the valley not only because it is a signature landscape but there are endangered species on that land. DEM is being pushed to acquire the land in order to preserve and protect as well as it working in the long term, to bring in an operator similar to Mt. Wachusett.

The next item on the agenda was a Forest and Parks update by Director Todd Frederick. He distributed a handout of proposed CMR changes put forth by field and regional staff.

Changes included Item 2, Plum Island Reservation, the language was clarified by deleting the words Plum Island and adding the words "vehicle travel around drumlin is prohibited" because the drumlin is eroded and there is an alternate route to the beach. Item 5, Use of Intoxicating Beverages, now states "Beer kegs and "beer balls" will not be allowed at any Division managed facility" because the regional and park supervisors feel that the quality of the experience has decreased due to the presence of alcoholic beverages. Item 9, Special Use Permits proposes longer permit periods in an attempt to attract better equipped concessionaires.

Mr. Frederick also on rehab. staff is working out well with each region having certain constituency expertise. He noted the presence of Park Supervisors is critical in making sure things are done properly with contractors.

He is continuing to work with Peter Smith on park surveys with cards of opinion for feedback. Finally, we are working with consultants on setting up a training program for water purveyors to work with regional staff.



As part of the Commissioner's Report he gave the status on the Open Space Bill. It will be refiled at the end of this week adding \$4-\$20 million to the DEM infrastructure and to the Metropolitan District Commission. Funds have been added but it will still be a \$300 million package. The Commissioner also gave an update on the Department's Budget. The budget will be tight this year with many burdens and challenges facing Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick in terms of year-round staff versus seasonal.

Finally, Commissioner Webber announced that Susan Fairbanks is the new Director of Communications for the DEM. She will be concentrating on communication issues and events.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 16, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA.



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Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, February 16, 1994 at 100 Cambridge Street, 19th floor, Boston, MA 02202.

Members present - Sally Bell and Michael Last. Absent - John Capone and Carol Lash. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Chief of Legal Services Martin Suuberg, Nancy Mitchell, Stephen Brown, and Tom Harrington of Pickett and Miyares.

The approval of the minutes from the January 19, 1994 meeting were postponed until the March meeting.

The first item the Board discussed was the nominations for the Alan Hendry Award. Prior to the meeting Todd Frederick mailed a list of nominees for the Board's review. Todd recommended Steven Nicolle, Supervisor at Nickerson State Park, because of "team oriented" management style and his cooperative professional relationship. Sally Bell concurred. Michael Last mentioned John Pelczarski as a possible choice, but agreed Steven Nicolle was best qualified.

The next item on the agenda was a Greylock Center briefing by Project Manager Stephen Brown. Stephen explained the goals and future possibilities of such a facility. Mr. Brown mentioned the upcoming conference at Greylock, March 10 and 11, hoping to attract more developers to Greylock. He distributed a brochure and booklet on Greylock he and his staff produced. Michael Last said the healthy environment would be a "magnet center" for inner-city kids, where they could retreat from the city. He also inquired about housing facilities, for possible company conferences. Stephen Brown said we are proposing to put a 200 room conference center in for short term of conference visits. Stephen said the framework is there but there is a need more interested parties. Michael last suggested a council be formed to try and find a way to support this center. The Board enthusiastically thanked Stephen for the presentation.

The fourth item on the agenda Eminent Domain Acquisitions by DEM's Attorney, Nancy Mitchell. The Department is seeking to do a taking on Johnson property in Hadley, MA,

and Mass. Audubon Society, Inc. property in Brewster, MA. Ms. Mitchell Explained to the board these are friendly takings. Property owners have agreed on purchase price and have signed P & S. The taking is a creative method of curing difficult title problems. Ms. Mitchell then explained the properties:

Johnson Property: 15.22 acres dividing into two non-contiguous parcels, between the Ct. River and Fort River, Fort Meadow Area of Hadley. Steep river Bank. Within 10 year floodplain, provides a natural valley storage area.

Part of group to provide water-based recreation link between Ct. River and Holyoke Range and Skinner State Park. It also protects views from the Summit House.

Warren and Pauline Johnson have agreed to sell for \$30,000.

Mass. Audubon Society, Inc.:

DEM requested Mass. Audubon to acquire and hold title until DEM was able and ready to accept the transfer. Mass Audubon was the successful bidder at a public auction on DEM's behalf 1/25/93, taking title 2/24/94.


Title examiner certified that title is good and clear of record, but not necessarily marketable. 5.5 acres fronts on Flax Pond Road, an interior park road at Nickerson. Private development would have significant negative effect upon park. Appraisal was \$32,000.

Mass. Audubon purchased and agreed to sell at \$30,000 plus costs (\$5,200) includes title).

The Board was able to reach John Capone for a conference call to vote to approve the exercise of eminent domain authority on the Johnson and Mass. Audubon properties. Upon the motion of Michael Last, seconded by Sally Bell the Board unanimously approved the exercise to acquire the two parcels of land.

Due to lack of time the Board deferred Items five and six to the March meeting.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. the date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02202.



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COMMISSIONER

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, March 16, 1994 at 100 Cambridge Street, 19th floor, Boston, MA 02202.

Members present - Sally Bell, Michael Last and Carol Lash. Absent - John Capone. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner Peter Smith, Jack Lash and Aaron Toffler of Pickett and Miyares.

Upon the motion by Sally Bell seconded by Carol Lash the minutes from the January 19, 1994 and February 16, 1994 meetings were unanimously approved.

The next item discussed was item number two on the agenda, a report on the Greylock Center Conference, March 10-11, 1994 in Adams, MA. Peter Smith gave the Board a brief overview on the conference and distributed an 3/12/94 article from the Berkshire Eagle. He said the conference was a success and many new "visions" and concepts were discussed. Sally Bell inquired about turnout of developers and company representatives present at the conference. Peter said there were not as many as the department had hoped but the parties present were very interested in Greylock's development. He said the next step of the project is making it happen.

Commissioner Webber asked Michael Last if he would discuss the Santa Fe Conference. Mr. Last had organized the conference with the goal of getting kids into the outdoors and introduce them to wildlife and various activities. Mr. Last reported that it was a success. The children were much more intune with their studies and curriculum. He suggested the Department use Greylock Center as a site for children to explore the environment in the future.

Item 3 was deferred until Todd Frederick arrived.

Next on the agenda was a discussion of the Walden Pond Management Plan by project manager Jack Lash. Jack presented the Board with final copies of the Walden GOALS Management Plan. He indicated that these Executive Summaries listed the primary issues at Walden Pond State Reservation, and the corresponding recommendations to address those issues. Sally Bell asked for a copy of the longer, Main Text. Jack agreed to send her one. He asked that board members read the document, and consider approval of the GOALS plan at their next meeting.

Commissioner Webber asked Jack to update the Board on DEM's Old Growth Forests. Jack indicated that he is working with a team of people to plan a conference in fall, related to Old Growth Forest management and protection. He agreed to keep the Board members up to date regarding the dates and times of the conference-which is for all Atlantic Coast and Eastern Region states.

Lastly, Jack indicated that the GOALS program had started two new plans-one for the northern half of region 4, and the other for the Waquoit Bay Reserve. Regarding the latter, South Cape Beach will be included in the plan, as will Washburn Island and the Quashnet River Watershed.

The next item on the agenda was a resource conservation update by Peter Smith. Peter explained to the Board that the Greenways Grants and Lakes and Ponds Grants will be announced within the next month throughout the state.

He also reported on the Roughan's Point project in Revere, MA stating this is one of the most team-oriented projects for the Division. DRC has worked with EOEA to develop a flood management plan that meets numerous needs in this area, not only a structural role for the homes but also in terms of financial share of funds.

The Commissioner's report and legislative update was next on the agenda. The Commissioner reported on the House Bill 1714 public hearing sponsored by Senator Durand. He told the Board he would give a copy of his testimony for their files.

The Commissioner reported good news that the Governor said no to the Freetown Forest land swap to exchange state forest land to expand their industrial park.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA.



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William F. Weld
GOVERNOR

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, May 18, 1994 at Bradley Palmer State Park in Topsfield.

Argeo Paul Cellucci
LT. GOVERNOR

Members present - Carol Lash, Mike Last, and John Capone. Also present were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Supervisor of Bradley Palmer Peter Carlson, Karl Honkonen, Mike Gildesgame, Bob Hartzel, Elissa Campbell, Tom Harrington and Suzanna Collerado of the Essex County Trails Association. Absent - Sally Bell.

Trudy Coxe
SECRETARY

Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

Upon the motion of Carol Lash, seconded by Mike Last, the minutes from the April meeting were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Webber invited park supervisor Peter Carlson to give a brief introduction and history on Bradley Palmer State Park. Mr. Carlson handed out an information packet to all those attending which included brochures and trail maps, and a copy of a paper written by Sr. Mary Eileen Foley, R.G.S. entitled "Bradley Palmer -The Man and His Mansion." He spoke of the 30 - 35 miles of trails within the park, of the construction projects/renovations taking place at the park that total close to \$500,000 and including a new wading pool, comfort station, contact station, group use picnic area and the repavement of the road. He also spoke of the Historic Curatorship Program and the fact that the mansion is one of the properties included in this program. Following legislative authorization, the Department will be looking for a suitable individual or group to renovate the mansion in lieu of rent and would be given a long term lease.

Suzanna Collerado of the Essex County Trails Association and a neighbor of the park, further spoke of the trails as the park. She expressed her concern about snowmobiles taking over the park in the winter. Her group concentrates on all passive use in the park as well as within the 5 surrounding towns. They have held fundraisers, received grants and enlisted volunteers to help out existing park staff. She says that the trails association considers itself a friends group at the park. She spoke in favor of keeping the Department's budget in tact and maintaining an adequate level of staffing.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Mike Gildesgame and Bob Hartzel on the Lakes and Ponds. They handed out the latest draft of The Lakes and Ponds Management Policy which is to be the state-wide policy. This is expected to be voted on by the Water Resources Committee in June. They also distributed the Lake Management Plan Workbook. A full day lakes and ponds workshop was to be held on May 21 for lakes and pond associations and staff. This year over \$233,000 was distributed to 33 communities and lakes associations as part of the 1994 lakes and ponds grant program. Also working with DEP and DEM staff on water quality testing at selected lakes and ponds. They are hoping to put last year's water quality results into a report that would provide useful information and guidelines for users. They are simultaneously developing a GIS map of each of the watershed bodies.

Second item on the agenda was a report by Karl Honkonen, Acting Chief of the Bureau of Interpretive Services, on the 1994 Summer Interpretive Program. He showed a 10 minute video developed by the National Park Service on their interpretive programs. He also handed out materials relevant to DEM's program. Karl stated that by providing interpretive programs it contributes to the visitor's sense that DEM is doing its job in the parks. It empowers people a little more and encourages them to incorporate some of the things they learned in the parks into their daily lives. This year the Department has hired two seasonal coordinators and 53 interpreters to be placed at 35 parks, the most parks ever to have an interpretive program. He mentioned the Interpretive Training Institute that is sponsored by the Appalachian Mountain Club which holds 2 1/2 days of training at Pinkham Notch in New Hampshire. The DEM will again be sending people to attend.

The Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick then gave his report. Regarding recreation programs - all day-use facilities will be up and running by Memorial Day Weekend, campground openings have been happening in phases since mid-April and they too will be fully staffed by Memorial Day. The pools are scheduled to open again this year on Father's Day, June 19. He spoke briefly of the DEM budget and told the Board that the salaries for the seasonal park workers will be \$5.00 per hour as opposed to the DPA rate of \$8.50. All laborers beginning after May 22 will receive this rate. Fire Control - have had recent fires but the Department is staffing more fire towers with seasonal employees. The New England Parks Director Conference was held the first part of May with a series of round-table discussions and site visits. He said that there was a good exchange of ideas and that he found Massachusetts to fall somewhere in the middle in terms of funding and facilities. A good news item - the Department spent \$2 1/2 million dollars on capital funding on Forests and Parks facilities this year across the state. Iron Rangers will be placed at specific facilities to collect fees/donations. A campground survey is beginning to be conducted while random surveys are taking place at day-use facilities.

Commissioner Webber then gave his report to the Board. Regarding the budget, he said that the House of Representatives restored approximately \$2 million dollars in funding to the Department's budget. The budget will now go to the Senate for debate. He stated that assuming that the House funding levels are sustained, the Department will not have to go through lay-offs and seasonal conversions. The organizational structure of the Department is still going to be looked in terms of updating and reorganizing in order to make the Department more flexible and productive. He then quickly ran through events/announcements that have been happening over the past month. Including Greenways grants, Governor's visit to Mt. Greylock State Reservation, Envirothon in Spencer, Jug End in Egremont (land acquisition - eminent domain authority given by town), Committee on Natural Resources oversight hearings across the state, pier for the Bounty in Fall River, and the Ernestina - new mast and the Governor swearing-in new commission members.

Kerry Mackin of the Ipswich River Watershed Association then spoke to the Board about an issue specific to Bradley Palmer State Park. A group of citizens asked her to convey their concern to the Commissioner and to the Board of the Department's plan to open a 1/2 mile stretch of road to traffic. They also felt that re-paving the road was not necessary. She said that they were hoping that actions could be deferred until a meeting could be arranged between the Commissioner and this group. Commissioner Webber said that he would be most willing to meet with this group. Kerry said she would convey that to the group. She also stated that the watershed association would like to be partners with the DEM on cooperative activities related to open space and wetland protection.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45PM.

The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was scheduled for Wednesday, June 15 in Springfield.



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MEETING NOTICE

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 20, 1994

11:00am

Greylock Visitors' Center
Lanesborough, MA

William F. Weld
GOVERNOR

Argeo Paul Cellucci
LT. GOVERNOR

Trudy Coxe
SECRETARY

Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

AGENDA

1. Approval of the July 15, 1994 minutes.
2. Request for approval Greylock Master Plan (Project Manager Stephen Brown).
3. Update of Forests and Parks activities and issues (Director Todd Frederick).
4. New Business (Commissioner Peter Webber).
5. Commissioner's report.
6. Date for August 1994 meeting.

THIS MEETING
WAS CANCELLED

Agenda pushed to
August —



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COMMISSIONER

A special meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Friday, August 26, 1994 at the Forest Park in Springfield, MA.

Members present - Sally Bell, Michael Last and Carol Lash. Absent - John Capone. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Webber, Stephen Brown, Project Manager of Greylock Center, and Bruce Stebbens Greylock Center Advisory Committee and Greylock designee for the Secretary of Economic Affairs.

The first and only item on the agenda was a presentation and request for approval for the Greylock Master Plan by Project Manager Stephen Brown.

Prior to today's meeting, Stephen distributed copies of the master plan to the Board for their review. He explained the main reason for gathering the Board for this special meeting was to move the Greylock Center project forward by reviewing and adopting the master plan and recommending it to the Commissioner for his approval. Once approved, DEM will file the master plan with the Secretary of State's office.

Stephen explained they chose this approval process because it was agreed between DEM's legal staff and DCPO's office legal staff on an attempt to lay a framework for various steps that we needed to go through for request for expressions of interests.

An article from the Williamstown Advocate was circulated that stated their support of the master plan. Stephen told the Board that the first draft of the master plan was constructed in response to the expressions of interest, and that DEM and DCPO worked together to create a consensus building document.

Stephen suggested two changes before they adopted the plan; Land Use Area Plan and the section on Rustic Lodging.

The master plan is subject for amending after the re-use hearing, on Wednesday, November 16, 1994.

The Board the moved to vote on the Greylock Master Plan. It was unanimously approved.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 28, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA.



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COMMISSIONER

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, November 16, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA.

Members present - Sally Bell and Carol Lash. Absent - John Capone and Michael Last. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Brian Shanahan, Gary Briere, Bob Wilber, Rich Thibedeau, and Tom Harrington of Pickett & Miyares.

Items 1,2, and 3 were deferred. At this time Item 4, update on the Division of Forest and Parks' activities was presented by Chief of the Bureau of Recreation Gary Briere, and Assistant Director of Forests and Parks Brian Shanahan.

Gary distributed a copy of the DEM Recreational Consumer Attitudes Survey. This survey was given to 401 people to find out what people think of our parks, how often to they frequent the facilities, and most importantly what they expect. Overall the themes present in all of the surveys were users desired clean, attractive, friendly and safe places to recreate.

The second item Gary distributed was a DEM "camper hang-tag". These items are cards campers receive when they register at our campgrounds. One side lists the dates the camper has reserved a site and the flip side is a small survey evaluated the users stay at that facility. Over 900 cards were sent into the Recreation department and all comments were entered into a database. The results gave the Department an indication of what is really happening in our parks across the state.

The next item on the agenda was item 2; the Washington Mountain Brook Dam report given by Rich Thibedeau. Sally Bell and Carol Lash requested it be noted for the record that they endorsed the project. He distributed the August 30, 1994 draft of Washington Mt. Brook Dam Plan. The primary protection is with the watershed and the

three surrounding dams. The focus is to repair and modify the last dam and create a dry dam. Other goals of the plan, to develop a series of trails around the wetland and move all recreational activities to October Mountain Lake. He noted that all interested parties have approved this plan.

Item 3 was the next item on the agenda. Bob Wilber, Director of DEM land acquisition program gave a summary of all the land acquisitions in FY'94. He mentioned all the groups DEM has worked with over the year, including an auction with Mass. Audubon. The Jug End property, located in Egremont, MA, was the largest acquisition that DEM performed in partnership with MA Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He estimated that DEM owns between 285,000 and 300,000 acres of land in the state. Also, of all 12,000 acres of land protected across the state through the Bond Fund programs, state agencies protected 8,000 of those acres and DEM represents the largest single contributor to the state wide total with 3,500 acres. Finally, Bob mentioned that Russell Weeks, of the land accession team, will be retiring from DEM after 35 years of service.

Items 5 and 6 were presented to the Board by Commissioner Peter Webber. The Commissioner reported the names submitted by DEM for Board appointments arrived in the Governor's office November 13, 1994 for their review.

A summary of Secretary Coxe's Top Ten was given. The Department's main focus goes on Item #7 - to make Massachusetts the best forests and parks system in America. Commissioner Webber emphasized the Department's goal of making sure we meet the expectations of the all parks users.

The Commissioner gave a brief legislative update. The Gas Tax eliminated the Harbor Inlands Waterways Funds. People are working on restoring the fund and amending the initiative. He reminded everyone that the Greylock Reuse hearing was that evening at 6:30pm in Adams, MA.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 1994, at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston.



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Peter C. Webber
COMMISSIONER

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, December 14, 1994 at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA.

Members present - Sally Bell, Carol Lash and Michael Last. Absent - John Capone. Also present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Chief of Staff Susan Frechette, Chief Legal Counsel Martin Suuberg, Stephen Brown, Bob Hartzel, Mike Gildesgame, Gordon Marshall, Bob Care, Phillip Gilmore and Tom Harrington of Pickett & Miyares.

Item 1 - approval of the November 16, 1994 meeting were unanimously approved.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Phillip Gilmore and Bob Care of the DEM Out-of-State Fire Team. The Massachusetts team consisted of 20 members that volunteered to help fellow firefighters control the rapid fires occurring in various Western states this past summer. Phil narrated a 20 minute slide show presentation on the team's assignment to a 15,000 acre fire in Montana.

Item 3 was an update on Greylock Center by Project Manager Stephen Brown. Stephen reported that a Public Reuse Hearing was held in November and 25 people attended. Those attending supported the project and those who had a concern only made suggestions as to how the project could be strengthened.

Item 4, DEM Lakes and Ponds Program update was presented by the Office of Water Resources (OWR) Chief Planner Mike Gildesgame and Lakes and Ponds Planner Bob Hartzel. Bob distributed to the Board the 1994 Massachusetts Policy on Lake and Pond Management. This document, written by the Office of Water Resources staff, serves as the first comprehensive policy of Massachusetts' lakes and ponds with the overall goal to maintain improve and protect the quality of lake ecosystems in Massachusetts.

Mike then explained what OWR is performing on DEM property and the five areas they are responsible for - monitoring the lakes and ponds water quality, the Cleans Lakes Program, the small grants program, geographic selection of lakes and ponds and general technical assistance and education in lakes and ponds.

Following up on Mike's discussion, Bob Hartzel gave a summary of the results of the ten lakes they monitored. Board member Mike Last asked if there was any way we could reference the historical trend in improvements/decline in our lakes? Bob stated that there are 200 - 300 lakes in our Forests and Parks and over 3000 overall in the state and because the number is so large some of the lakes have not been monitored in the past. Todd Frederick mentioned this is the first year of the program and that this is one of there goals and they are currently working from the bottom up. Bob mentioned that for the future they are looking to monitor twelve lakes per region coordinating with DEP in fish monitoring. Lastly, Mike Gildesgame mentioned that the deadline for the application of the small grants programs is January 20, 1995.

Item 5 was the next item in the agenda. Chief Legal Counsel Martin Suuberg gave the Board summary on reclassifying unique resource zones specifically Achussenet Cedar Swamp. Basically it is a restoration project. We are trying to accomplish a recreation area of a wetland which is now an abandoned gravel bed. Martin mentioned that the condition of the area is very poor however significant wildlife has developed there. Litigation will come two months from now. Commissioner Webber told the Board that we do not guarantee it will resort back to a swamp but asked the Board for an expression of intent for successful completion. There is a two year completion date on this zone.

The next item on the agenda was a Forests and Parks update by Director Todd Frederick. Director Frederick gave a summary of the seasonal staffing plans for May 1995. He informed the Board on the Department of Environmental Management's upcoming centennial birthday in 1998. Others items he reported on was the success of the Massachusetts environmental license plates that have brought dollars it the trust. The Director closed out his presentation with a financial report on the parks. The Capital Plan assists Forests and Parks in rebuilding the infrastructure. They are spending roughly ten million dollars; nine million of which goes to rehabilitation of existing facilities i.e. by implementing newer technologies - composting, forestry and vehicular equipment, bicycles, signage issues, and training.

Item 7 and 8 were combined in the Commissioner's report to the Board. Commissioner Webber gave the board an update on the appointment of new Board members. The five individuals' names have been submitted to the Governor's Chief Secretary's office for review. He informed the Board that by the January Board meeting we should have concrete information on the nominations.

Due to the lack of time, Commissioner Webber quickly distributed three documents to the Board. A memo explaining the Sea Path

Program, and Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM) Bulletin, and a letter from Governor Weld on recent budget information.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. The date for the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at the Department of Environmental Management, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston.

