FINAL 3/20

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 1997
New England Electric Systems
Westboro, MA

Members present were Jeffrey Tranen, Tad Ames, Michael Last, Ron Smith, Debbie Cary and Elisa Campbell.

Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Peter Smith, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Rich Thibedeau, Gary Briere and Brian Shanahan.

Land Acquisition Update
Kate Lewis gave an update on DEM's land acquisition program (the handout that was unavailable for distribution because of computer problems is attached).

All land acquisition funds allocated to date (1.5 million) have been spent and there will be between $300,00 - 1 million available to spend in the fourth quarter.

Kate announced that DEM is revising land acquisition strategies and processes and she will be attending the next several board meetings to update the board on land acquisition progress.

Kate noted that there will be a focus on purchasing land in southeastern Massachusetts. Jeff asked why the southeast and Kate responded that development pressures are greatest there. The Commissioner followed up Kate's comment by adding that the National Heritage Foundation has identified several sensitive habitats in the southeast.

A discussion about the relative value of conservation restrictions vs fee purchase as it related to the October Mtn. parcel generated this question from Jeff - had the purchase been a CR, would there have been forestry activity, and now that DEM owns the parcel are we going to generate revenue through forestry?

Commissioner Webber stated that there had been a healthy debate over fee vs. CR and that the potential for forestry activity did play a part in the decision to purchase with the help of the New England Forestry Foundation.

Next was discussion about the DEM allocation for land acquisition:

Commissioner Webber explained that emergency infrastructure repair on MDC property and increased spending on watershed acquisitions by other agencies led to a decrease in DEM's original 4 million dollar land acquisition budget. Kate Lewis and Commissioner Webber held out hope that some or all the funds may be reinstated and Kate assured the board that DEM is ready to spend any funds that are made available and that at least six projects could close in the

fourth quarter.

Debbie Cary stated that watershed property should be purchased, but not at the expense of DEM. Tad Ames questioned whether any other agencies lost capital funds to which the Commissioner responded that the DEM was held harmless in the construction area of the capital budget.

The next issue was earmarked land purchases included in the open space bond bill. Commissioner Webber stated that many land purchases were included by legislators that may not meet DEM land purchasing criteria. With the help of the board he suggested meetings be held with legislators on a case by case basis. Jeff asked if the legislators will be flexible and the Commissioner responded that if the legislators get a fair hearing and we say no than they will accept that. Debbie added that the meetings could serve as a forum for rasing other DEM related issues and projects.

Debbie Cary went on to say that the issue of earmarked land purchases could be folded into "information sharing sessions" that were discussed at the last meeting of the statewide friends group.

Tad Ames stated that the board should constitute public review on all land acquisition matters.

Next discussion was generated by Debbie Cary about the year round use of Mt. Wachusett as it relates to revenue. The Commissioner reponed that the agreement with the Mt. Wachusett operators was flexible enough to control additional usage and revenue.

GREYLOCK
Director of Planning Richard Thibedeau gave an update on the Mt. Greylock renovations.

Richard Thibedeau then discussed the decision process that led to a decision to build a historically accurate "waterless" toilet building. Plans of the site were reviewed. The new building will have a kiosk and a porch.

There was a short discussion about the ski shelter program and accessibility issues. Some concern was expressed about it becoming a party spot.

The Commissioner asked for approval of the following Greylock Projects: the War Memorial Tower renovation ($400,000 approx.), the new toilet building ($225,000 approx.), the Thunderbolt Lodge ($75,000 approx.) the interior renovations at Bascom ($50,000 approx.) .

Tad Ames expressed concern about clutter and suggested that interpretive panels be placed inside.

Tad Ames also recommended that the repairs to the Bascom Lodge be completed by DEM and not assigned to the tenant.

The Commissioner assured the board that the use at Bascom would not change, as this is the only building to come into the program with a tradition of use.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the elements of the Greylock Plan, as recommended by the Commissioner.

BUDGET

The Commissioner stated that the FY'97 budget was still being analyzed and that it was the best House 1 in the last six years. The 2nd Century Fund is in the FY'97 Budget and a plan to spend it is in place. The Governor wants to keep fees low.

There was a discussion about getting support for the DEM budget. The commissioner mentioned Parks day in May. Debbie Cary suggested setting up meetings in each region to talk to legislators about park issues. Board members enthusiastically agreed to attend such a meeting in their respected regions.

Jeff Traner wanted to know how budgets can be increased after House 1.

All agreed that there needs to an effort to increase the awareness of the value of parks.

FORESTS AND PARKS UPDATE

Second Century Fund is in the FY'97 budget and will be spent as follows:

1 Million - Seasonal Staff - campground night security
ranger staff-early start
park interpreters-increase

1.5 Million - Maintenance/Replacement
- 1/2 million for equipment
new tables/fireplaces
trail maintenance
fire road maintenance

Gary Briere handed out a visitor survey report and a discussion followed.

Gary Briere discussed the schedule for the upcoming Supervisors' Conference and invited the board.

Gary Briere announced the 1998 Centennial Forum on Recreation and Parks to be hosted by DEM in conjunction with the NRPA.

DRC UPDATE

Peter Smith reported on G.O.A.L.S. Plans, the status of Greenway Grants and the Walden Pond Bank Restoration Project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marilyn Lund spoke on the need for information on the financial needs for staffing and operation of the state park system.

The board voted to obtain copies of all information to be shared at the regional meetings.

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There being no further business before the board the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management will be Wednesday, February 26, 1996. Location to be determined.

Amended 4-30-97

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1997
THE OFFICES OF MINTZ LEVIN
BOSTON, MA

Those in attendance were Ron Smith, Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Michael Last, Patricia Karl, Brad Spooner for Jeff Tranen and Debbie Cary. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Ellen Fitzpatrick, Jack Lash, Peter Smith, Kelly Sinclair, Ken Foley, and David Mahr. Others present included Marilyn Lund, Mark Bettencourt and Tom Harrington from Pickett and Miyares.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tad Ames explained that as to the capital improvement section of the Greylock Plan, the board did not vote on all elements, only certain components. It was suggested that the motion be made available in writing to clarify that which was voted on.

Peter Webber stated that the Bascom Lodge curatorship aspect was not included nor was the landscaping which needs further review by the board. The landscape issue will be brought back before the board in 2-3 months with further refinements.

It was concurred that the Greylock projects voted on last month did not include final sign-off on landscaping, nor Bascom Lodge curatorship.

Essential renovations to the Bascom Lodge building are planned for this spring. The specifics were referred to Martin Suuberg.

Martin Suuberg mentioned the Capital Plan process and said if the Thunderbolt shelter is budgeted, we would be able to tackle this project this spring. The curatorship issue was deferred.

Discussion followed resulting in the general conclusion that the major improvement plan had been approved but the 4 specific elements had not. Michael Last proposed a new vote and the Commissioner asked for approval of the following elements of the Greylock Capital Plan:

War Memorial Tower - 400k
New toilets - 225k
Thunderbolt - 75k
Bascom Lodge-plumbing/interior renovations - 50k

Elisa Campbell referred to the procedure whereby any items to be voted upon were to be given to the board 20 days prior to the vote, stating what exactly will be voted on. Because the board has seen and discussed this issue many times in the past, they voted to waive the 20 day notice.

By unanimous vote of all members present it was agreed to waive the aforementioned 20 day notice and vote on the elements of the Greylock summit improvement plan.

Michael Last suggested a motion for approval of the aforementioned 4 elements with amendments for FY97. Ron Smith moved. Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the following 4 elements of the Greylock Plan:

War Memorial Tower - 400k
New Toilets - 225k
Thunderbolt - 75k
Interior of Bascom Lodge - 50k

The Board members representing Berkshire County and statewide environmental groups were present so a vote could be taken. Jeff Tranen will be given an opportunity to mail his vote to the board.

Continuing with the matter of last month's minutes, Elisa Campbell noted additional grammatical errors.

Debbie Cary recommended the following changes. Under Budget, it should read that "board members will enthusiastically attend such meetings in their respected areas." The board would get copies of all information from meetings, although not all would attend. The information is to be shared at the regional meetings and must clarify what information is forthcoming.

The board voted unanimously to approve the January Minutes, as amended.

WATCHABLE WILDLIFE PRESENTATION

Jack Lash gave a brief introduction and distributed the Mass Wildlife Viewing Guide and an outline listing 5 aspects of implementation: distribution, media coverage, site enhancement, programs, and funding. Mike Last suggested working with science teachers in an effort to promote interest and awareness of our youth in Forests and Parks. Jack Lash stated that this is already happenning with Project Wild but even beyond this there are numerous opportunities.

PLAYING FIELD POLICY

Todd Frederick supplied the members with a handout, "Policy for the Disposition of Land or Interests in Land," which sets out a program of 10 criteria to meet. A second handout on, "Douglas State Forest: Proposed Athletic Fields," was introduced. The handout outlined aspects of a potential policy, foremost of which is that

the town have an open space plan before proposing any ballfields. Todd Frederick stated that there are dollars available to develop plans which will open doors to additional dollars for open space plan implementation. Todd Frederick also stated that so far in Douglas there are 14 acres of acquired land available to solve recreation problems, but there is no policy as to how this land may be used. Debbie Cary suggested that this response may not be adequate, and that without an accompanying open space plan, there is no way to substantiate this information. Debbie Cary continued to explain that is why an open space plan is necessary. She would be hesitant to approve without an open space plan demonstrating that this is the only site. According to Debbie Cary, "This sets a precedent." Peter Webber concurred it is not unreasonable to expect an open space policy. Todd Frederick will make an effort to find out if any groups are in opposition to this change. The board agreed not to discourage Douglas from proceeding at this time, but no formal approval of a ballfield policy or the specific Douglas proposal was given.

CONSERVATION TRUST

Ellen Fitzpatrick expressed her interest in the trust because of her work with the Centennial and gave a handout to board members which stated that the Conservation Trust was established by the Acts of 1990 and is not subject to Legislative appropriation. In some cases the DEM must use funds only as specified by the donor and in other cases DEM may not accept the donation at all. Debbie Cary suggested that we promote marketing of the trust to make people more aware. There was also discussion regarding the use of iron rangers and regarding parks such as Lawrence Heritage which have successfully used the trust in the past. Ken Foley also gave a financial update of the trust. Ellen Fitzpatrick introduced Kelly Sinclair as the new Conservation Trust Director. She also touched upon planning of events/outreach with special attention to advance planning and good publicity such as getting the information into environmental organization newsletters. Elisa Campbell expressed her concern over spending the money in ways that would instill trust in people that if they give money, it will be spent towards improvements. Other considerations include spending at facilities where donations do not come in. Kelly Sinclair is looking into how much we want sites to look at plans and come up with matching Conservation Trust Funds. Trust fund training to be done at next supervisor's conference.

2ND CENTURY FUND UPDATE

Peter Smith presented the update and supplied all present with relating handouts. Peter Webber noted that our 2nd Century base of 4.3 million dollars is the trigger above which revenues earned by DEM are returned directly to DEM. Peter Smith stated that there are twenty revenue items that can be tapped for 2nd Century funds. With 52 fire towers across the Commonwealth, requests for use have included Personal Computer Service use, which is similar to the computers used by FedEX and others. Several vendors are racing to

wire up, especially in areas with large populations. Last year we received $150,000. This year, $200,000 and next year $500,000. Communities like it at a place where it can not be seen. Peter Webber noted that many are small, one or two acre lots, specifically acquired or leased for this purpose. Peter Smith explained that many of the antennas are cleverly placed. DEM may even consider placing some in buildings. We're also looking into fiber optics. Elisa Campbell asked if communications are going to satellite. Peter Smith said that we will have to do more marketing studies to determine how desirable these sites are, prior to RFP. Peter Smith continued with regards to merchandising, DEM wants to start a demo program at Salisbury Beach and we are working with UMass to put together a packet. Programs in other states have brought in funds. Other requests included placement of ATM machines. People at DEM are looking into Corporate sponsorship. Michael Last suggested "Adopt- A- Park". Peter Smith pointed out that we have done that but more could be done. Elisa Campbell spoke of free publicity available if we can plan and promote things in advance.

GENERAL REPORTS

Peter Webber's report included discussion pertaining to the employment of a PR firm to assist with increased awareness. Debbie Cary thought this idea was premature until results of the parks study identify exactly what the problems are.
Todd Frederick's report included an ORV update and requested board members to attend the upcoming annual Forest/Parks Supervisor's Conference on March 24-26, 1997.

BUDGET

HWM hearing scheduled for Friday, March 7, 1997 have invited only the Secretary to testify. All Commissioners from all areas may submit a written testimony.

BOARD CONCERNS

Mike Last asserts that many of things here may add leverage onto each other such as schools and local organizations. Mike Last recommended a plan to mutually reinforce synergies by taking a management approach to help weave these things together in ways that the board may be involved as there are tremendous opportunities should the board pull all of these things together. DEM should optimize PR with Susan Hamilton by having her at our next meeting.

Elisa Campbell pointed out that it has been 2 years since new officers were elected and suggested that the matter be addressed at the next meeting.

Elisa Campbell would like a report from Forestry as to how DEM Forestry plans were enforced and are being obeyed, especially on

private land.

Elisa Campbell expressed her concern over the Greylock Center Plan and Peter Webber assured her that Greylock is to be covered in next month's meeting.

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There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned. The next DEM Board meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 1997 in Central MA, the specific site location to be determined.

Amended 4-30-97

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 27, 1997
DANIEL S. HORGAN MEMORIAL SKATING RINK
AUBURN, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Thursday, March 26, 1997 at the Daniel S. Horgan Memorial Skating Rink, Auburn, MA.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am by Acting Chairman Tad Ames.

Those in attendance were Acting Chairman Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Ron Smith and Debbie Cary. Absent were Michael Last and Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Director of Public Information Susan Hamilton, Jack Lash, Andy Backman, Warren Archey, and Peter Smith. Others present were Marilyn Lund, Mark Bettencourt, Matthew Strzempko, Jacqueline Davidson from the Walden Pond Board of Directors and Karen O'Donnell from Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the February 97 minutes was postponed until the April meeting, giving all members the opportunity to review them.

PRESENTATIONS

Jack Lash and Andy Backman presented the Region 4-Northern Connecticut Valley Management Plan. Jack described the process of how this management plan, which has evolved over a couple of years, has become a mix of regional and property based plans as suggested in early GOALS discussions. All members were urged to review the sections on carrying capacity and recommendations prior to the next meeting. Elisa Campbell commented on the lack of information about what DEM is doing, as an agency, to protect natural resources and while she is not opposed to recreation, she sees an opportunity here to make this area a natural resource area. Elisa expressed her concern over DEM becoming a tourist agency as opposed to a natural resource agency and stressed the importance of keeping clear the board's issues. Peter Webber agreed that this issue should be acknowledged but suggested another forum. Jack Lash added that they would like to find a way to work on Elisa's issues and more importantly implement them. Whereas, several members had not received their packets and subsequently had not yet read the plan, it was agreed to put it on the agenda again next month for questions, concerns and comments.

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Warren Archey's presentation on Forestry included handing out and

discussing a copy of *Timber Harvesting in Massachusetts with the Forest Cutting Practices Law*, a copy of a Forest Cutting Plan and the *Massachusetts Forestry Best Management Practices Manual*. Discussion followed with regards to forest regulations and Chapter 132 revisions.
Warren continued with specific focus on the Forest Legacy Program and the need for additional funding and support. Debbie Cary made a motion to send a letter to all delegates requesting congressional support for funding of the Forest Legacy Program in Massachusetts and highlighting the DEM board's work in this area. Elisa Campbell seconded. The board voted unanimously.

A motion was made and passed to send a letter to all delegates requesting congressional support for funding of the Forest Legacy Program.

REPORTS

Susan Hamilton's report on the Office of Public Information began with a brief description of the recently created office. An internet home-page coordinator is in the process of being hired. An internal newsletter, "Newsline" was available for members to view. The 3rd Annual Parks Day is scheduled for May 21st, at the State House. All questions, comments and concerns are welcome.
Susan continued her report by distributing a copy of the "Request For Response," which is being used for the Marketing and Public Relations Strategic Plan, in the hopes of attracting a Public Relations Firm to guide the Department through the Centennial and beyond into the 21st century.

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Peter Smith's report on the Greylock Project informed members that since the designation in September of the Greylock Management Associates, an extensive redesign of the site plan, due to concern in the community, on a number of issues, and in response to public meetings, has produce significant improvements. An ENF was filed on March 17th and public comments will be taken until April 17th.

GENERAL REPORTS

Peter Webber informed the board of the upcoming Senate Ways and Means Budget hearings taking place on Monday, March 31st.
Peter also focused on the incident with the dam at Myles Standish State Forest stating that it is the responsibility of DEM to inspect dams throughout the state.
Peter continued his report with notice of the signing of a memorandum of agreement with the Friends of City Square Park in Charlestown to take place in his office on March 27th.
Peter concluded his report by saying that the bank restoration at Walden Pond has come along extraordinarily well and the trail is scheduled to open in June. A protest by PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) will take place on April 15th at

MATT
Christine Conelly ASST
HPT LETTER for R. KARL

Walden Pond.

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Martin Suuberg began his report by stating that DEM has more capital money this year and therefore work is being accelerated on a number of projects.

In reference to the Greylock Summit, revised notices have been mailed and the overall plan must be brought back before the board. According to Martin, the most significant thing is that there is a Public Notice Requirement for which letters have gone to selectmen to discharge the responsibility. There is also a unanimous approval requirement in the regs. The first step for the board is the overall approval of the plan.

Martin concluded his report by displaying pictures of the proposed rehabilitation of the Regatta Boat House which DEM committed to last year and according to Peter Webber should be complete by the 1998 boating season.

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Todd Frederick announced that the seasonal roster has been finalized with approximately 60 new seasonal positions for a total of 1100 positions.

Letters were mailed yesterday with regards to the upcoming Regional Meetings.

Tad Ames inquired as to what's happening in Brimfield regarding ORV use and Todd responded that internal discussions are currently taking place and a Brimfield Advisory Board has been set up; however, the forest is still closed to ORV use.

Todd asked if the board was going to vote on the Playing Field Policy and it was agreed that whereas it was not on the agenda this month it would be postponed till next month so that members could prepare.

BOARD CONCERNS

Elisa Campbell reminded the board of the need for elections of officers. Ron Smith and Debbie Cary agreed to be the nominating committee. Elections will be on next month's agenda.

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Ron Smith inquired about legislation in the use of forests for ORVs. Peter Webber responded that Bill #1060 has been filed at the request of constituents; however, he testified against it, for the Department. Todd Frederick added that DEM staff are meeting with both chairs of the House and Senate to explain the Department's position.

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Debbie Cary informed the board that the Supervisor's Conference was really well done with a lot of diversity.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Bettencourt informed the board that Region 1 is still awaiting lumber for Freetown to build bridges and he also expressed his concern for communication problems in the Myles Standish State

Park.

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May 28, 1997 from 11am - 2pm was agreed upon for May's meeting, tentatively to be held at Walden Pond.

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There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 2:35pm. The next DEM Board meeting is scheduled for April 23, 1997.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 1997
GREYLOCK VISITORS CENTER
LANESBOROUGH, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, April 26, 1997 at the Mt. Greylock Visitors Center, Lanesborough, MA.

The meeting was called to order at 11:07am by Chairman Michael Last.

Those in attendance were Chairman Michael Last, Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Ron Smith, Debbie Cary and Patricia Karl. Absent was Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Chief Engineer Raul Silva, Region 5 Supervisor Doug Polland, Jack Lash, Gail Yeo, Stuart Weinreb and Bill Rivers. Others present were Marilyn Lund of the Walden Pond Board, Tom Harrington of Pickett and Miyares, Mark Bettencourt, Dennis Regan and Harry Dodson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Elisa Campbell moved to approve the February minutes subject to amendment striking Digital discussion. Debbie Cary seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the February minutes, as amended.

Elisa Campbell moved to approve the March minutes subject to technical corrections.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the March minutes, as amended.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ron Smith moved for change of officers as per the nominating committee.
Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the following new officers were elected:

Tad Ames	**Chair**
Debbie Cary	**Vice-Chair**
Elisa Campbell	**Secretary/Clerk**

PLAYING FIELD POLICY

A motion was made to approve the Playing Field Policy which was presented at the February meeting.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the Playing Field Policy.

MT. GREYLOCK

Martin Suuberg read the following motion:

> Resolved, that the Board of Environmental Management approves the plan entitled "Mt. Greylock State Reservation Centennial major Capital Improvements Plan", dated March 14, 1997, and the projects described therein, provided: any proposal involving the long term lease of the Bascom Lodge to any entity, or use by any entity, other than the Department of Environmental Management, shall be subject to the prior approval of the Board. This approval is also subject to the requirement that detailed plans for the landscaping of the summit area shall be presented to, and approved by, the Board.

Elisa Campbell moved. Tad Ames noted that Jeff Tranen has given proxy to approve so approval is unanimous.

By unanimous vote, the board approved the 'Mt. Greylock State Reservation Centennial major Capital Improvements Plan.'

Stu Weinreb initiated discussion of proposed landscape improvements. Harry Dodson, an outside consultant was introduced to give further details. The board agreed to postpone the vote on proposed landscape improvements until the next meeting.

GOALS

Jack Lash did a follow up on last month's presentation of the Region 4 North Quabbin GOALS Plan. Discussion followed relating to GOALS. Elisa Campbell questioned the process: If the board votes to approve the GOALS plan, is the board saying it agrees with the entire plan? Jack responded with yes; however, implementation is a whole other level. Debbie Cary asked if there was anything the board could do to be sure the GOALS plan is being followed. Jack assured the board that it would kept informed of the status of a specific plan. Peter Webber stated that the board should not be put in a position whereby it must give overall approval and it is reasonable to expect requests for further approval on specifics. Elisa Campbell moved to approve the North Quabbin GOALS Plan. Ron Smith seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the North Quabbin Goals Plan.

PRESENTATION

Bill Rivers' presentation on Forestry included slides which revealed what Massachusetts forests look like and what they should look like. Discussion followed on problems in Eastern Massachusetts, bio diversity, infrastructure, boundaries, staff, lack of public support and recent accomplishments. Tad Ames asked if there are any mandates that state what DEM or the state shall provide. Bill explained that Chapter 132, section 40 sets the mandate.

ORV UPDATE

Peter Webber stated that legislation for Bill #1060 was filed by Senator Pacheco approximately six weeks ago and Peter testified against it on behalf of DEM. It came up approximately two weeks ago with the executive committee where Senator Pacheco asked the committee to give it a favorable report. Senator Pines requested that the bill be held until the next executive session. DEM is scheduled to meet with Chairman Petersen and the committee members to discuss what impact the bill will subsequently have. Todd Frederick explained that an information packet has been updated to include why DEM is opposed to the bill and clarifying that DEM has not instituted a ban. According to Todd, several work parties are repairing bridges, clearing trails, etc. for scheduled openings in early May.

2ND CENTURY FUND UPDATE

Peter Webber gave a brief update on 2ND Century Fund. According to Peter, the forecast for revenues has been revised to $700,00 over the base of $4.3 million, and discussed upward projections for FY98.

REPORTS

Todd Frederick reported on the very successful regional friends group meetings and how the meetings established an opportunity to meet enthusiastic participants. Todd stated that F&P plans to meet with the groups twice a year with the ultimate goal being to provide support and advice.
Todd revealed that in spite of damage incurred by the April 1st storm, all parks are on target for scheduled openings with the possible exception of Wells State Park, which may be a bit behind schedule.
According to Todd, seasonal staff is coming on early, due to 2nd Century Funding.

Martin Suuberg's report began by informing members of the 'Historic Curatorship Program' featured in the May issue of Yankee Magazine. As a follow up on Standish State Park, Martin spoke about the

ongoing effort to assure public safety and said, so far, there are no major problems.
According to Martin, the 1998 Fiscal Capital Plan includes expanding campgrounds as suggested by Peter Webber, revival of the Olmstead Park Opening and looking at the roads leading up to the summit of Mt. Wachusett.
Martin concluded his report by explaining that Watershed Management may be an issue to bring back before the board.

Peter Webber informed the board of a Purchase and Sales agreement which was signed a week ago for 30-40 acres of lake front property on Lake Wyola which DEM will manage as a satellite of Wendell. According to Peter, this property would be a good day use area with the potential for a camping area and could open this spring.

BOARD CONCERNS

Elisa Campbell, speaking for Debbie Cary, suggested further discussion on Greylock Summit. Michael Last raised the question of whether the other board members may have a conflict of interest. Elisa reasoned that this is a major DEM undertaking. Peter Webber recommended bringing this issue back before the board for procedural guidance and to update. Peter acknowledged that multiple and conflicting interests are part of any board.

Ron Smith suggested that information from regional meetings should be shared with other groups and Todd Frederick responded by explaining that F&P is in the process of putting together a summary which will be shared.

Todd Frederick suggested that Karl Honkonen, Director of Interpretive Services, should be at the next board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marilyn Lund suggested the need for the board to encourage friends groups with incentives. Peter Webber responded that he would like to build into DEM staffing a volunteer coordinator to supply support and create friends groups.

Marilyn Lund expressed her concern regarding Fort Devens property. Peter Webber explained that there is current dialogue between DEM and Fort Devens management. Peter also explained that the pond at Fort Devens could be a great relief of the swimming population at Walden Pond. Elisa Campbell asked what recreation facilities does DEM provide to the Boston suburbs area.

Mark Bettencourt encouraged board members to attend regional friends group meetings.

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Tad Ames provided members present with notification of the

nomination of Todd Frederick for the position of Director of the Division of Forests and Parks. Elisa Campbell moved and Martin Suuberg seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board voted to approve the appointment of Todd A. Frederick to the position of Director of the Division of Forests and Parks.

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June 18, 1997 was agreed upon for June's meeting tentatively to be held at the Mount Tom State Reservation.

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There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:15pm. The next DEM Board meeting is scheduled for May 28, 1997 at the Walden Pond State Reservation.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 28, 1997
WALDEN POND STATE RESERVATION
CONCORD, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, May 28, 1997 at the Walden Pond State Reservation, Concord, MA.

The meeting was called to order at 11:15am by Chairman Tad Ames.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Elisa Campbell, Michael Last, Ron Smith and Patricia Karl. Absent was Jeff Tranen. Present from the Department were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Region 2 Supervisor Dave Hall, Landscape Architect Stu Weinreb, Assistant Chief of Interpretive Services Karl Honkonen, Director of the Office of Project Management Gail Yeo and Project Manager Karst Hoogeboom. Others present included Marilyn Lund, Ken Bassett Jacqueline Davison, Helen Bowboin and Dan Monahan (all from the Walden Pond Advisory Board) and Mark Bettencourt.

PRESENTATION AND VOTE ON EMINENT DOMAIN TAKING

Martin Suuberg presented an issue between the City of Fitchburg and the City of Leominster regarding a parcel of land located on Route 2 in Fitchburg. Fitchburg acquired the land for development. Leominster took the land by eminent domain to protect its drinking water reservoir. A section of the Open Space Bond Act requires DEM to purchase the land. Financial problems within Fitchburg make a taking before the end of FY97 urgent, so the board is being asked to vote at this meeting. Following a discussion on whether a CR or a fee simple acquisition would best serve those involved, Tad Ames suggested discussing that aspect at another time.

By a majority vote of all members present, the board voted to approve the following Certificate of Vote:

> **On a motion duly made and seconded, it was**
>
> **VOTED: That the Board of Environmental Management, pursuant to the provisions of Section 3 and 3A of Chapter 132A of the General Laws, as amended, approves the exercise of the power of eminent domain by the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Management, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to acquire a conservation restriction or ownership in fee simple over a certain parcel of land containing 50 acres, more or less, located in the City of Fitchburg, Fitchburg City Hall, 718 Main Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts 01420, now or formerly owned by the City of Fitchburg.**
> **Any capital funds allocated for this project are to be in addition to such funds previously allocated for DEM and in no way detracts from such funding for DEM in future years.**

Tad Ames opposed. Debbie Cary questioned Tad's opposition and he explained that it was due to the lack of details available.

GREYLOCK SUMMIT LANDSCAPING UPDATE

Martin Suuberg began the update by informing members of a site visit done to observe rare/endangered plants.
Stu Weinreb continued, explaining that nothing has changed in a major way. Some changes have been made to the tower plans to lower the cost, and the alternative overlook area has been nixed. According to Stu, the only significant change is the use of the existing opening and having it woven into the landscape. Balsam Firs are being tagged and will be transplanted. Elisa Campbell voiced skepticism for the cutting of any trees and Stu responded that transplants have been done successfully within the last year. Tad Ames questioned maintenance and Stu said that maintenance would be important. Peter Webber asked if there was a potential for new growth directly in front of the lodge and Stu replied that old photos show growth and while it may not be trees, it shows native shrubs and grass.
Michael Last moved to approve the Greylock Summit Landscaping Improvements. Ron Smith seconded. Elisa Campbell abstained.

By a majority vote of all members present, the board voted to approve the Greylock Summit Landscaping Improvement Plan.

INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS

Karl Honkonen's informative presentation began with two handouts: Program Update for the Board of Environmental Management and Massachusetts Outdoor Classrooms, Interpretive Program Locations Summer 1997. Highlights included the Junior Ranger Program, a GOALS update and the assurance that Summer 1997 will see more Interpretive Programs offered than ever before.

DRC UPDATE

Martin Suuberg disclosed that DEM has met the Capital Projects spending goal for FY97 and is starting to look towards FY98. Debbie Cary asked if it weren't all spent, could it be used for other things such as land acquisitions. Martin replied that generally speaking, they are separate allocations.

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE

Peter Webber informed the board that the budget has passed both the House and the Senate. As far as funding goes, DEM appears to be in good shape. Peter continued by informing the board of several events taking place and acknowledged that board members should be notified when public events are scheduled, especially within their respective regions.

ORV UPDATE

Todd Frederick disclosed that the committee has moved to put Bill #1060 into a study due to conflicting opinions as to whether proper procedure was followed. Peter Webber expressed concern over the November cutoff date running into hunting season.

FOREST & PARKS UPDATE

Todd Frederick reported that all trails are now open. According to Todd, a tracking program has been developed to determine capacity at day use and recreation facilities. Todd also stated that the reservation program is working well and the alcohol restriction went into effect this year with great support from campers. Todd continued the report by informing members of Recycling in Parks with particular emphasis on pilot projects in Salisbury and Horseneck where automated machines recycle cans. Todd concluded his report by stating that DEM has purchased a compressed natural gas vehicle.

GREYLOCK UPDATE

Debbie Cary stressed the importance of the board keeping apprised of the issues and controversies surrounding Greylock. Peter Webber informed the board of Peter Smith's departure and explained that Martin Suuberg will take over the coordinating and overseeing until a replacement is on board. Secretary Coxe has issued a certificate via the MEPA process. Peter stated that the two primary issues are housing and funding. Tad Ames questioned the need for the large number of houses being proposed and expressed concern for the proposed size of the hotel. Debbie Cary asked who oversees what is acceptable. Peter Webber explained that most authority is with the Commissioner. Elisa Campbell commented that the project's size and components keep changing, making it very hard to comment to MEPA since the environmental impact is a direct result of scale. Tad questioned the market for housing and Peter agreed stating that a plan must be explicit and upfront. Patricia Karl asked why DEM is involved and Peter replied that DEM is involved due to the proximity to Greylock Reservation. Tad Ames and Elisa Campbell have been advised by the State Ethics Board that they do not have a conflict of interest regarding the Greylock Center project and both have filed a disclosure of private interests under Chapter 268, Section 23.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ron Smith moved to approve the April minutes, as amended. Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous approval of all members present, the board voted to approve the April minutes, as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Bettencourt informed the board that Region 1 is still awaiting lumber for bridge construction.

BOARD CONCERNS

Elisa Campbell suggested that it would be beneficial for the board to meet with Lieutenant Governor Cellucci. Peter Webber proposed a park event or the June board meeting may be of interest. Debbie Cary recommended sending a letter inviting the Lieutenant Governor to the June board meeting.
Debbie Cary requested an update on Ft. Devens at the next board meeting.
Debbie Cary inquired as to the possibility of having an interim board member to replace Jeff Tranen in his absence. Martin Suuberg agreed to look into the matter.

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There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30pm. The next DEM Board meeting is scheduled for June 18, 1997 at the Mount Tom State Reservation.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 18, 1997
MT. TOM STATE RESERVATION
EASTHAMPTON, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, June 18, 1997 at the Mt. Tom State Reservation, Easthampton, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Elisa Campbell and Ron Smith. Absent were Jeff Tranen, Michael Last and Patricia Karl. Present were Secretary of Environmental Affairs Trudy Coxe and EOEA Assistant Director of External Affairs Rick Lombardi. Those present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Susan Frechette, Centennial Coordinator Ellen FitzPatrick, Bureau Chief of Recreation Gary Briere, Chief of Fire Control Mike Tirrell, Assistant Regional Director Rod Whipple and Mt. Tom State Reservation supervisor Russ Bardwell. Others present included Marilyn Lund, Jackie Davison, Mark Bettencourt, Anthony DiRocco, and from the Mt. Tom Advisory Committee, Robert Schwobe and Sally Evans.

The meeting was called to order at 11:30am by Chairman Tad Ames.

Secretary Trudy Coxe informed the board of a recent award given by the National Wildlife Federation to Massachusetts for being the first state in the country to put its forest lands up for review by outsiders. Massachusetts passed with flying colors which is a great tribute to DEM, MDC and the work being done by the board. The Secretary continued by stating the main purpose of her visit was to alert everyone to the importance of Governor Weld's Brownfields Package. The Secretary acknowledged Debbie Cary, who testified in favor of the bill at the recent public hearing. Secretary Coxe went on to report that currently, there are approximately 7700 Brownfield sites across the state which are not being used due to contamination. The passage of this piece of legislation would have a great impact on getting hazardous waste sites cleaned up and removing the liability that often times hangs over the owner of the land even after the land has been cleaned up. Secretary Coxe requested that the board pay attention and speak out on behalf of the Brownfields Legislation as an important environmental issue that will have a huge impact on where future growth will or will not occur. The Secretary then asked the Board if they had any questions of her.

Debbie Cary asked if the study which was commissioned last year comparing DEM to similar agencies around the country was complete and if so does it offer any suggestions. Secretary Coxe replied that the study has yet to be released; however, she has seen a draft, and feels that it will reflect favorably upon DEM. She said it raised a number of questions about the responsibilities of both the MDC and DEM as parks agencies, and that the concern is that MDC

in particular is compelled to invest heavily in its public works infrastructure at the expense of other park-related improvements. She felt the study would provide valuable advice for both agencies to improve their operations.

Tad Ames asked if funds for adverse judgments for land acquisitions via eminent domain come out of EOEA funds. His concern was that large judgements would displace funds slated for other land acquisition projects. The Secretary referred to Martin Suuberg who stated that it is not inconceivable for other accounts to pay for the judgement such as one set up solely for judgements against the state. Commissioner Webber cited the very large judgement for DEM's South Beach on Martha's Vineyard several years ago, which did not adversely impact funding for DEM's land acquisition program.

Peter Webber presented the idea of a "Parks College" and the Secretary said that this concept could be important and has many parameters.

The board moved outside for the Park Ranger Graduation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Elisa Campbell moved to approve the May minutes, as amended. Ron Smith seconded.

By unanimous approval of all members present, the board voted to approve the May minutes, as amended.

CENTENNIAL PRESENTATION
Ellen FitzPatrick presented a Centennial Overview outlining how DEM is quickly moving from the planning stage to the implementation stage. According to Ellen, the two major goals are raising awareness and building support for Massachusetts Forests and Parks. Strategies include raising awareness through the "1998 Year of the MSF&P" Proclamation, statewide programs, promotion, marketing and merchandising. In terms of building support, DEM is working with advisory boards, friends groups, legislative communication and the Conservation Trust promotion. Ellen continued by informing the board of key statewide programs and Gary Briere explained the Natural Connections Relay. Tad Ames asked if there was a budget for the Centennial and Ellen suggested that she return at another time to discuss the budget accurately.

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE
The Commissioner reported that good bids are in for the comfort station work of the Greylock Summit Project. Peter informed the board of the recent DEM acquisition of Lake Wyola Park, a 30 acre parcel of land in the town of Shutesbury . According to Peter, Camp Child in Plymouth has been sold privately to a residential developer. On a final note, Peter referred to an article which appeared in the Boston Globe Newspaper on the loss of habitat for Thrush. According to the article, this bird has already disappeared from Mt. Greylock area. Debbie Cary stated that it

would be good if DEM and Fisheries and Wildlife could team up to work out a possible theory.

MASSACHUSETTS BUREAU OF FIRE CONTROL OVERVIEW
Chief of Fire Control Mike Tirrell presented an overview of the Bureau of Fire Control beginning with its history. Mike discussed the Bureau's mission statement, detection, prevention, pre-suppression, suppression, specialized services, the status of the bureau, short term goals, long term goals and what steps should be taken next to bring Massachusetts Forest Fire Control into the 21st century. Ron Smith asked if DEM was paid for its crews that are sent out west to assist other states. Mike said that Massachusetts is reimbursed by the Federal Government.

FOREST & PARKS UPDATE
Todd Frederick informed the board that approximately 80% of DEM pools will be in operation by the target date of June 21. Debbie Cary inquired into the past water quality problem in the Gardner area and Todd replied that the water quality is now satisfactory; however, DEM will continue to monitor. Todd stated that a meeting was being held today to discuss how Lake Wyola will be managed and operated. According to Todd the No Alcohol Policy continues to receive favorable press.

DEVENS BRIEFING
Susan Frechette indicated that "Ft. Devens" is now known as "Devens". According to Susan, DEM has investigated the property as a possible location for much needed office space in the central Massachusetts area. The DEM has long been looking for a central location for a number of functions, including a statewide meeting space, MIS training facility, and space for Central office-based managers to spend more time in the field. Susan explained that she and Todd Frederick have visited the site and talks are continuing based on what DEM's needs are and what is available. Debbie Cary asked if there is a set criteria established for inquiring into other sites in the area. Susan responded that other sites may be considered as a multi-use facility that can serve statewide needs as well as regional needs.

Commissioner Webber acknowledged the interest raised by Walden Pond Advisory Group members in the use of Mirror Lake at Devens as an additional swimming location in the Metro-west area. He indicated that the Massachusetts Land Bank has requested this site not be considered for this use at this time. Elisa Campbell brought up the issue of local opposition to increased usage and Susan agreed that there is a vocal group opposed to increased usage but the Devens Open Space Plan calls for recreation at the lake.

Tad Ames asked for a report at the next Board meeting of the DEM swimming locations in the Metro-west area.

DRC UPDATE
Martin Suuberg stated that the bids for the Memorial Tower and the Thunderbolt Ski Shelter, which are part of the Mt. Greylock

Restoration Project, are due in next week. Martin also informed the board that DEM is still working on the Spending Plan for 1998 which includes commitments to projects started in '97, additional funding for dam safety and park improvements. Peter Webber added that $700,000 has been approved to go forward with the Leominster, No Town Reservoir and also, additional funding required for the Nuns Hill project has been approved. On the Greylock Center Project, DEM is still awaiting the results of the housing study and ongoing is the Environmental Impact process (MEPA). In addition, potential sources are being considered to assist with the funding gap. According to Martin, DEM is in the process of considering proposed conceptual approaches to improvements at Wachusett Summit. In conclusion, Martin spoke about the long standing issues of old buildings along Salisbury Beach and explained how discussions have begun with local Representatives and a coastal geologist has been retained by DEM to look into the matter.

BOARD CONCERNS

Peter Webber, responding to a concern brought up at the May board meeting regarding the possibility of having an interim board member in Jeff Tranen's absence, stated that this could not be done.
Tad Ames suggested that the board become more involved in the DEM budget process and the Commissioner agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jacqueline Davison urged board members to recognize the need for relief of the heavy demand for swimming at Walden Pond.

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Having concluded all business, the meeting adjourned at 3:16pm. The next DEM Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 23, 1997.

Elisa moved
Ron seconded
unanimous

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 23, 1997
PURGATORY CHASM STATE RESERVATION
SUTTON, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, July 23, 1997 at the Purgatory Chasm State Reservation, Sutton, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Elisa Campbell, Ron Smith and Patricia Karl. Absent were Michael Last and Jeff Tranen. Present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forest and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Resource Conservation Martin Suuberg, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Susan Frechette, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Budget Director Anna Prince, Director of Dam Safety Raul Silva, Director of Project Management Gail Yeo, Project Manager Stu Weinreb, Director of Historic Resources Patrice Kish, Chief of Recreation Gary Briere, Chief Forester Warren Archey, Assistant Regional Director Tom Lavoie and Seasonal Interpreter Sherry Harrington. Others present included Brad Spooner, Marilyn Lund, Mark Bettencourt, Jackie Davison, Shary Borg, Bill Perry and Linda To.

The meeting began with Assistant Regional Director Tom Lavoie and Seasonal Interpreter Sherry Harrington introducing themselves and welcoming the board. Sherry revealed the history of the chasm and talked about the wide range of people who utilize the park. Photos were passed around including one aptly entitled *Leverett Saltonstall Visits Purgatory*.

Todd Frederick handed out and discussed *Safe Swimming: A Sample of Ponds, Lakes, and Reservoirs with Lifeguards*. Todd explained that the list does not include salt water beaches or pools. Tad Ames asked how many pools does DEM operate statewide and Todd answered 20.

Debbie Cary introduced and welcomed her intern, Linda To from Philadelphia.

GREYLOCK
Marty Suuberg informed the board that sprouts of endangered goldenrod have been discovered on the proposed site of the Contact Station forcing the issue of the location. Stu Weinreb utilized a map to introduce the 2 alternative locations being explored as unobtrusively situated on previously disturbed land and along the flow of traffic. Marty explained that one of the goals is to minimize the disturbance to native wildlife such as the goldenrod and shadbush. Debbie Cary asked if the Greylock Advisory Committee had been informed of this change and Todd Frederick stated that they were scheduled to meet on July 24th and he was planning to attend. Todd stated that conversations with Regional Director Doug Polland concluded that Doug is completely supportive of this change. Debbie Cary question if an increase in cost was involved and Marty indicated that early reports show minimal increase. Tad Ames questioned if a vote was needed for this change of project. Kate Lewis responded that the change does not require a vote; however, the board may determine otherwise. Elisa Campbell asserted that the board should vote. Kate explained that there are two steps necessary, the first being the clarification of interpretation. Elisa Campbell moved. Ron Smith seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board voted in accordance with 302 CMR 8.05 in favor of the determination that a vote is needed for modification to the Major Capital Improvements Plan voted on April 23, 1997.

Kate explained the second step as being to approve or disapprove the proposed modification.
Elisa Campbell moved to approve the modification. Tad Ames seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board voted in accordance with 302 CMR 8.03(3) to approve the recommended modification to the Major Capital Improvement Plan.

Kate Lewis pointed out that whereas the vote is required to be unanimous, Michael Last and Jeff Tranen will be supplied with proxies and ratifications.

Marty Suuberg handed out and discussed a summary of the status of the Greylock Summit Improvements. Raul Silva discussed the importance of heat and ventilation to the War Memorial Tower. Martin explained that the increase in cost is due mainly to mobilization at the top of the summit. Martin explained the recommendations to the Tower are to complete the caulking and sealing and to install the heat and ventilation while putting the installation of the ramp for handicapped access and the new Marble floor on hold. Debbie Cary strongly opposed putting the handicapped access on hold. Gail Yeo responded that the total cost of the project has already increased significantly and subsequently some of the alternatives must be deferred. Martin explained that the recommendation is to put the renovations to the Ski Lodge on hold.
Debbie Cary moved in favor of the determination that the recommended cost increase to the Greylock Summit Improvements does not require a vote for approval. Ron Smith seconded.

By the majority of board members present, the board voted in accordance with 302 CMR 8.05 in favor of the determination that a vote is not needed to approve the increased cost recommendations for the Greylock Summit Improvement Plan.

Tad Ames opposed. Elisa Campbell abstained.

Director of the Moore S.P. Friends Group David Beach along with Dennis Milkern presented the Caruth Road Preservation Project Map which was presented to Commissioner Peter Webber on June 9, 1997. The historical map was researched and created by a group of local students to encourage acquisition of property adjacent to the road.

Patrice Kish and Landscape Preservation Consultant Shary Borg updated the board on Greylock Summit's nomination to the National Register.

Martin Suuberg informed the board of an upcoming meeting of engineers, designers and botanists to take place on Tuesday morning at the summit of Greylock.

BUDGET
Peter Webber, Susan Frechette and Anna Prince discussed with the board the status and process of the budget. Susan explained to the board it's scope of authority as outlined in Chapter 21 sec.3C. Debbie Cary asked if the timeline handout could be used to determine an opportune time for the board to become more involved and Peter replied that the time is now. According to Peter work begins in August for FY99.

Peter Webber began the Commissioner's report by informing the board that there is a sense of support for reviewing the campground rate process next year. Peter revealed that Lake Wyola can not be open because the facilities are not in compliance with the code. Debbie question why and Peter responded that among other things, the septic system is too close to the well affecting water supply and a number of underground tanks

have been removed.

Todd Frederick introduced Gary Briere to present a Recreation Update which included handouts and a concise explanation of the steps of the Service Management Cycle.

Warren Archey presented the board with an update on the Old Growth Policy. Warren encouraged members to become more involved in the issue. Elisa stated that old growth is not just old trees it encompasses the vegetation surrounding the trees. Debbie Cary asked what role would be most effective for the board to take. It was agreed to put Old Growth on the agenda for August.

Martin Suuberg informed the board that the position for Chief Engineer has been posted. According to Martin, consultants are still working on the housing study at Greylock Center. A Request For Response is going out to consultants to help with the Environmental Impact Report on the center. Martin stated that there has been renewed interest in Plymouth Rock and that the board will be provided with copies of the master plan at the next meeting.

Todd Frederick informed the board that on Monday, July 21, 1997 at the request of the Chief Forester in Nantucket the forest was closed due to threat of fire.

BOARD CONCERNS
Elisa Campbell informed the board of stone bridges being damaged by pickup trucks in Catamount. According to Elisa, the town is interested in support from DEM and the board on this matter. Elisa requested that Catamount Bridges Update be put on next month's agenda.
Elisa expressed concern for a stretch of land containing native wildflowers in Amherst and into Belchertown being damaged by the equipment of road crews.
Debbie Cary expressed board interest in the results of the Consultants Report and the Marketing Plan.

Tad Ames moved to approve the June 18 minutes. Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the June minutes.

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Having concluded all business the board adjourned at appx. 3:30pm. The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management is scheduled for August 20, 1997 at Purgatory Chasm.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 1997
PURGATORY CHASM STATE RESERVATION
SUTTON, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Wednesday, August 20, 1997 at the Purgatory Chasm State Reservation, Sutton, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Elisa Campbell, Ron Smith, Michael Last and Patricia Karl. Absent were Debbie Cary and Jeff Tranen. Present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Susan Frechette, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Park Supervisor David Podles, Gail Yeo, Raul Silva, Anita Wysocki, Bill Rivers, Curt Rudge, Jack Lash and Danielle Brunelle. Others present included Mark Bettencourt, Jason T. Phelps, Muriel E. Russell, Jane Hanyord, Prentice Crosier, Benton Phelps, Mason Phelps and Richard Banfield.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Chairman Tad Ames.

Land Acquisition Update
Kate Lewis began the Land Acquisition Update by handing out and discussing copies of DEM Hot Topics and DEM Real Property Transaction Notices which included project descriptions for several recent acquisitions. Kate informed the board of a Land Acquisition Strategy Workshop being put together by Christine Chisholm to introduce board members and regional staff to the land acquisition process. According to Kate, DEM is in the process of putting together the first budgeting exercise for land capital. This is a very preliminary list which is submitted to EOEA. Kate explained the selection process and use of master service agreements for experts such as title examiners, appraisers and surveyors and how DEM is now in the process of revising its current list of vendors. Kate discussed several projects including a few that do not require money such as the potential of obtaining a CR in 165 acres in Fairhaven which is a mitigation parcel available to EOEA. Kate explained that DEM will conduct the same due diligence as with any acquisition to determine if the property is contaminated.

Peter Webber informed the board of Jeff Tranen's resignation from the board and explained that there is approximately two years remaining on Jeff's term that must be filled.

Anita Wysocki was introduced as the Commissioner's Assistant.
Danielle Brunelle was introduced as a Program Assistant, DRC.

Catamount
Todd Frederick handed out a map of Catamount State Forest and the surrounding roads indicating where several stone culverts are located. Todd explained that the major issue which has been ongoing for quite some time involves a series of town roads surrounded by

Catamount State Forest being heavily used by ATV and 4 wheel drive type vehicles. Subsequently, the roads and the historical stone culverts located in the area are being damaged. Prentice Crosier of the Catamount Hill Association gave a brief history of the stone culverts revealing that they are over 200 years old. Elisa Campbell stated that the bridges are an important part of the issue but the basic issue is the inappropriate use of trails and roads. Peter Webber added that it is a violation for a Chapter 90 registered vehicle to travel onto the state forest roads and/or trails. Michael Last stated that it is unclear as to where the Chapter 90 town roads end and the state forest roads begin. Michael continued that a broader issue may be the lack of policing on state property. Michael concluded that an important decision must be made in some of these areas, raising a policy question, either DEM must have the resources and the police power to patrol and manage these areas, or interested parties willing to share the responsibilities must be utilized. Tad Ames suggested putting Town Roads and Related Policy Issues on the agenda either for next month or the following month.

Elisa Campbell moved to approve the July 23 minutes. Ron Smith seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the July 23 minutes.

Chief Park Ranger Curt Rudge outlined the duties and responsibilities of Park Rangers including rules and regulations enforcement, search and rescue legal responsibility, park watch, radio communications and backup system and a proposal for implementation. Elisa Campbell suggested the need for year round rangers as opposed to the current seasonal positions. Tad Ames asked how many seasonal rangers are there across the state and Curt answered eight. Peter Webber asked if the MDC ranger duties and responsibilities are comparable and Curt stated that no, there are many differences.

Forest and Parks Report
Todd Frederick stated that the time line is to have an **Old Growth** Policy to present to the board at the November meeting. DEM's goal is to have something in place by the end of the year. According to Todd, industry also wants it protected. Elisa Campbell asked if this included the power industry since some Old Growth in the Berkshires is owned by power companies, and Todd said he will find out.
Todd handed out and discussed an ORV Program Update and a Camping Occupancy Report for the current season.

Commissioner's Report
Peter Webber informed the board about the first formal meeting of the Boston Harbor Islands Partnership and explained that an Advisory Committee is being assembled. Regarding dams, Peter stated that significant press coverage is raising and heightening awareness.

DEM remains optimistic for support in the legislature this fall but in the meantime, staff members are examining ways to increase dam safety and inspections with existing resources. According to Peter, Massachusetts is having an intense fire season which peaked toward the end of July. Peter informed the board of two drownings, one at Hopkinton State Park and one at Cochituate State Park. Peter continued that while there are very high levels of attendance at all swimming facilities, the drownings caused DEM to conclude that a special review with outside specialists is needed. Peter stated that the deadline is approaching for the Historic Grant Program.

Budget
Peter Webber stated that the supplemental budget has been submitted and anticipating approval when the legislature returns for a formal session. Internally, the capital spending request has been submitted and DEM is looking forward to approximately 22 million dollars in projects. Peter discussed a summary report on FY97 relating to the 2nd Century Fund. Susan Frechette briefly explained the budget process that will be taking place over the next couple of months. Elisa Campbell discussed the need for a fund allocated to cover emergency repairs and Peter responded that a line item in the current budget allocates 25 million dollars for costs associated with emergency maintenance and repairs for the entire state.
Peter concluded that DEM has been directed to work on a pilot project for a management review.

DRC Report
Gail Yeo responded to last month's board concern for a stretch of land containing native wildflowers which were being damaged by road crews working on the Amherst/Belchertown Bike Trail. According to Gail, Town Conservation Officer Pete Westover reported that a section of Lady Slippers was unavoidably harmed. Gail explained that this is something that DEM absolutely must avoid at all cost. Gail continued by discussing the Greenways Grant as a planning grant to determine routes for bike trails. Gail informed the board that DRC staff member Andrea Lukens is available for questions about bike trails.

Gail revealed that the **Greylock** Comfort Station has been put on hold because the proposed new site is not appropriate due to the view. In reference to the marble floor of the Memorial Tower, several options are being considered in an effort to provide handicap access. According to Gail, there will be access; however, it is unlikely it will be by June 20, 1998. Tad Ames added June 20th may be a good time to announce the overall program to restore Bascom Lodge.

Board Concerns
Ron Smith stated that he is opposed to the major expense associated with access to the Greylock Memorial Tower.

Public Comment
Richard Banfield questioned why roads that have been closed due to damage are turned into trails instead of being repaired The change

makes them unusable to ATVs.
Mark Bettencourt stated that it may be beneficial to all interested parties if the board became involved early on the Catamount issue.
Jason Phelps asked why particular trails remained closed.

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Having concluded all business the meeting adjourned at 2:30pm. The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 1997, location yet to be determined.

DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 1997
OFFICES OF MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY AND POPEO PC
BOSTON, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on September 24, 1997 at the Offices of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo PC, Boston, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Mike Last and Patricia Karl. Absent were Elisa Campbell and Ron Smith. Present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis and Director of Project Management Gail Yeo. Others present included Mark Bettencourt and Jason Phelps.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Chairman Tad Ames.

Michael Last moved to approve the August meeting minutes. Debbie Cary seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present the board approved August meeting minutes.

Forests and Parks Report
Todd Frederick spoke to the board about his recent attendance at the National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD) which was held in Ohio. Todd handed out a tentative draft agenda and a brochure on the 1998 NASPD Conference which is being held in Boston and sponsored by Massachusetts DEM, Division of Forests and Parks. Several board members offered their ideas and assistance. /Todd reported on the Catamount Road Issue and stated that facts are currently being gathered which will be presented to the board at a future meeting. /Todd continued by discussing the cooperative project of DEM and the Student Conservation Association(SCA), the Massachusetts Forests and Parks Americorps crew. This 24-person environmental service crew which will be based in Hallockville Pond in the Dubuque State Forest is the first residential Americorp Program in Massachusetts. /Todd stated that an Old Growth Report should be completed by September 30th. Debbie Cary asked if the report will establish policy and Todd said that the board will have time to discuss the report prior to policy setting. /Todd concluded by discussing program and policy changes that will take place next May which is, in part, the result of a thorough review being done on how DEM manages facilities with lifeguards.

High Ground Update
Kate Lewis handed out and discussed Section 110 which sets out standard procedure for DEM as well as any public agency seeking to enter into high ground leases. Debbie Cary asked if there is revenue potential and Kate replied that yes, funds will go into the 2nd Century Fund with no specific regional targets. Tad Ames asked how market value is determined and Kate answered that it was

determined by public bidding. Tad suggested that the board revisit this issue again.

DRC Report
Gail Yeo stated that Dave Clark is the new Acting Chief of Dam Safety. According to Gail there's been a $5mil appropriation for the Dam Safety Program. The statewide Dam Safety Conference is being held on November 6th. /DRC is awaiting guidance from EOEA on the specifics of the budget for Capital Projects with the focus on project review and the emphasis on natural and cultural resources.

Greylock
Gail Yeo described explorations being done and options being considered for the renovations to the floor of the Memorial Tower. According to Gail, due to the construction season, the access ramp will not be completed by the June 20th event but a temporary ramp will be in its place. Gail stated that the Tower, which is currently covered in scaffolding, should be completed by October 15th. Other points of the update by Gail included: early October bids are due for the Summit landscaping, the Thunderbolt Ski Lodge stabilization is under review, and the Bascom Lodge showers and bathroom renovations are beginning with the goal being to complete this fall. Gail presented a list to the board which included potential repairs and renovations to Bascom totalling approximately $75k.

Commissioner's Report
Peter Webber updated the board on the recent Boston Harbor Islands Partnership meeting and informed them of a conference being held at Northeastern University, (The Massachusetts Summit: The Promise of Our Youth, to be held on Sunday, October 26 at Northeastern University) to link up the efforts of outreach and planning. Peter explained that the idea is to reach out to inner city communities with a direct challenge to commit on an ongoing basis. Patricia Karl said that a delegation from Lawrence will attend to encourage youth, not only to do service, but to go into the schools and talk to peers. /Peter stated that the Mass Performance Enhancement Commissions made up of representatives from DEM and DMR will have their first meeting this Friday to begin the Management Study, and any savings that are a result of this initiative may be used by the Department for one time expenditures. /Re: Parks Study: In response to request from Debbie Cary, Peter stated that the Parks study report was not yet completed, due to some supplemental work commissioned by EOEA to evaluate the idea of a public recreation facility authority for rinks, pools and golf courses. Board members asked Peter to reiterate to Secretary Coxe their strong interest in obtaining the results of the overall study as soon as possible.

Budget
Peter Webber stated that the spending plan for FY'98 has been submitted. Tad Ames asked if it was time for the board to become involved with the plan for FY'99. Debbie Cary asked about the Capital Budget for FY'98 and Peter said that DEM has received the

first quarter allocation. Tad said it would be helpful if the board could be given a list of land acquisitions and capital projects with monthly updates that they may approve so that they have a definite role and are aware. Peter agreed and said that Marty Suuberg is working to get info in a format that can be easily understood.

Board Concerns
Debbie Cary asked if in light of the upcoming Centennial is there going to be a statewide review of signage and Todd responded that the signage program is well underway with efforts to standardize and Gail Yeo described the effort being placed on lead in signs. Peter Webber added that discussions are taking place to have signage on State Highways and also to identify public lands that are not listed on recreational maps. Debbie asked if there was any commitment to standardize and increase the availability of trail guides and Peter responded that DEM is in the process of identifying the gaps, in order to develop more maps. Debbie expressed concern over the lack of year round rangers and Todd responded that in this year's spending plan there are funds to hire 3 to 5 full time rangers and he supplied members with a handout. (Ranger Service Proposal)

Public Comment
Mark Bettencourt stated that DEM should make use of offers, from the public, for assistance to maintain signage, etc. so that trails may remain open.
Jason Phelps suggested rating trail difficulty and asked Todd to include him in his survey on the Catamount issue. Jason questioned why the Chester Blanford State Forest Campground has remained closed and Todd replied that Regional Supervisor Doug Poland has put together a list of necessary repairs, etc. and will call him.

On a final note, Todd requested the board's approval of naming the recently acquired Lake Wyola parcel the "Carroll Holmes Recreation Area" with a dedication/ground breaking to take place on the 18th of October. Debbie Cary moved and Patricia Karl seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the dedication and the naming of the "Carroll Holmes Recreation Area".

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Having concluded all business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00pm. The next meeting of the Board of Environment will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 1997 at Skinner State Park.

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DEM BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 1997
HOLYOKE RANGE NOTCH VISITOR CENTER
SOUTH HADLEY, MA

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on October 21, 1997 at the Holyoke Range Notch Visitor Center in South Hadley MA.

Those in attendance were Chairperson Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Elisa Campbell and Patricia Karl. Absent were Michael Last and Ron Smith. Present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Undersecretary of EOEA George Crombie, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Director of Resource Conservation Marty Suuberg, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Susan Frechette, Chief of Legal Services Kate Lewis, Director of Project Management Gail Yeo, Director of Operations Amy Garfield, Director of Waterways Eugene Cavanaugh, Acting Chief Engineer Raul Silva and Assistant to the Commissioner Anita Wysocki. Others present included Marilyn Lund, Mark Bettencourt, Jason Phelps and Mike Kotarba.

The meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Chairperson Tad Ames.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT
The Commissioner introduced George Crombie who presented an overview of the Public Administration Service (PAS) study of DEM and MDC parks systems. George handed out and discussed the document, 'Executive Summary Management Review of the Commonwealth's Park System and Metropolitan District Commission,' explaining that this document was not the full report. Peter Webber stated that Secretary Coxe has expressed an interest in meeting with board members to discuss the study in more detail. Debbie Cary asked if the authority to implement changes as recommended in the PAS study is completely with the legislature and George replied that it was. Debbie and Elisa Campbell requested copies of the full report.

BUDGET
Marty Suuberg handed out and discussed 'DEM FY'98 Capital and Capital Trusts', a list of projects and funding sources. Gail Yeo and Gene Cavanaugh handed out a list of major projects currently underway. Kate Lewis handed out and discussed the 'DEM 12 Month Acquisition and Protection Plan - FY'98.' Kate spoke about new land protection programs available such as the Plymouth Challenge and the Scenic and Natural Diversity (SAND) project. Susan Frechette reported on the operating budget, stating that DEM has an operating appropriation total of 40.1 million dollars for FY'98. According to Susan, a public hearing is being held next Monday with EOEA and written testimony will be accepted. Tad Ames requested authority from the board to draft a letter to Secretary Coxe expressing the need for more funding to the operating budget for repairs and maintenance of parks. Board members agreed. Debbie Cary stressed the importance of the board having representation at the upcoming hearing.

The board agreed to postpone the approval of the September minutes until the November meeting.

FORESTS AND PARKS REPORT
Todd Frederick discussed the handout, 'Second Century Fund Revenue Enhancement Options,' informing the board that approval to increase fees has not been made. Elisa Campbell stated that increased day use fees not only increases revenue but also affects the user's attitude and respect for the parks. Patricia Karl asked Todd to explain how the board could be most helpful and Todd stated that the board's support is most helpful. Debbie suggested a letter to the Governor communicating the board's support for increased fees. Based on lack of progress, the board made a motion to request the Secretary to review and approve the proposed increases in the parks system in order to adequately fund the 2nd Century Fund. Patricia Karl moved. Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the motion to request the Secretary to review and approve the proposed increases in the parks system to adequately fund the 2nd Century Fund.

A motion was made to send a letter to the Governor communicating the board's concerns about the motion to review and increase fees
Patricia Karl moved. Elisa Campbell seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, the board approved the motion to send a letter to the Governor communicating the board's concerns about the motion to review and increase fees.

Todd informed members that information is still being gathered on the Town Roads issue and he will keep the board updated. /Todd reported that meetings are being set up on the ORV Program and Regional Friends groups. Debbie suggested that board members commit to the Friends Group meetings. /Todd discussed a report on Old Growth on Wachusett Mountain. /According to Todd, the Americorp group has arrived and will be working on DEM projects as well as others for 11 months. /Todd discussed the initiative by Senator Brewer to conduct a forest and parks land inventory, whereby $200,000 has been allocated to survey approximately 1400 plots on DEM property to identify and analyze. Todd added that this is a two-phased program and there is a need to request additional funding./ Todd concluded by stating that the official dedication of the Carroll Holmes Recreation Area took place on October 18th.

Raul Silva gave a presentation of the proposed comfort/contact station and surrounding parking area at the Carroll Holmes Recreation Area.

DRC REPORT
Marty Suuberg informed members of a public meeting to begin of the planning process of the Hingham Facility complete with a new ferry terminal, visitor center and a park and greenway along the water's edge. Marty also discussed an upcoming meeting in Plymouth to update the master plan for the Pilgrim Memorial State Park and Plymouth Rock. Marty suggested a presentation on the master plan to board members at the November meeting. Debbie asked where the funding for these projects is coming from and Marty said that DEM is actively seeking

a National Fundraising Chairperson. /Marty informed members of the Dam Safety Conference taking place on November 6th in Sterling.
Susan Frechette informed the board of plans to open a Bed and Breakfast in May 1999 at the Bradley Palmer mansion through the Historic Curatorship Program.
Eugene Cavanaugh gave a brief overview of the 'Office of Waterways FY'98 Program.' Raul Silva explained the team concept of the Water Management Program.
Gail Yeo suggested that a brief presentation be done at each board meeting to focus on individual projects.

GREYLOCK
Marty reported that with regards to Greylock Center, DEM is still in the report writing/report generating phase. The Environmental Impact Review is ongoing as well as the Economics Report. The Sustainability RFR has generated many responses. According to Marty, on the Summit, the Memorial Tower work is near complete with some of the inside work scheduled to be completed next spring. Work is being done with regards to ADA accessibility. A Summit Landscaping contract has been awarded. The Bascom Lodge Improvements contract has been awarded and is ongoing. Discussions are taking place with regards to the Thunderbolt Ski Shelter and the Comfort Station is still undergoing vigorous debate.

Amy Garfield stated that more funding is needed for rehab projects. Debbie suggested that a report be created for the board to review, stating where the funds are going.
Eugene Cavanaugh revealed that DEM may need to look to the private sector to manage state owned piers.

BOARD CONCERNS
Elisa Campbell asked about Wachusset Mountain and Todd said that a meeting has been scheduled with the Commissioner and Senator Durand to discuss issues involving Mt. Wachusett. Debbie added that there are many concerns regarding DEM's role as a landlord that may need elevated attention.
Debbie Cary urged the appointment of a new board member to replace Jeff Tranen who resigned in August. Susan Frechette responded that the Commissioner is in the process.
Debbie suggested inviting the Governor to a board meeting. Susan Frechette agreed to work on scheduling a meeting.
Debbie inquired about the status of developing a regional office at Ft. Devens and Susan replied that she has received blueprints and the building would be too expensive to renovate to meet DEM's needs. Susan continued that DEM may need to vacate the Saltonstall Building for asbestos removal within the next 6 to 12 months. Various locations are being discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Mark Bettencourt suggested that the DEM schedule a meeting with the statewide Massachusetts Recreational Trails Friends and Advisory Board and Debbie Cary agreed that it may be a good idea to link it to a board meeting.
Marilyn Lund suggested that representatives of friends and advisory groups from Region 1 be notified of the upcoming board meeting. Debbie responded that we should, as a rule, notify the groups of board meetings in their area.

Jason Phelps reiterated his interest in working with DEM on the Catamount Town Roads issue. Jason also inquired about the hiring of a full time trails director in Region 5 and Todd Frederick responded that it is in the process of being done.

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The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management will be held on Friday, November 21, 1997 in Plymouth, MA, location yet to be determined. (alternative date Nov19th)

Having concluded all business, Elisa Campbell moved to adjourn. Patricia Karl seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present, a motion was approved to adjourn at 2:00pm.

Board of Environmental Management
November 21, 1997
Plymouth Town Hall
Plymouth, MA

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Environmental Management was held on Friday, November 21, 1997 at Plymouth Town Hall, Plymouth, MA.

Those in attendance were Chairman Tad Ames, Debbie Cary, Patricia Karl and Michael Last. Absent were Elisa Campbell and Ron Smith. Present from DEM were Commissioner Peter Webber, Director of Forests and Parks Todd Frederick, Director of Resource Conservation Marty Suuberg, Deputy Commissioner of Administration Susan Frechette, Director of the Office of Public Information Susan Hamilton, Director of Project Management Gail Yeo, Director of Historic Resources Patrice Kish, Forests & Parks Engineer Ruth Teixeira, Project Manager Jim Baeker and Project Manager Stu Weinreb. Present from the town of Plymouth were Director of Planning Department Jack Lenox, Director of Economic Development Mike Gallerani, Director of Inspector Services Richard A. Manfredi and Director of Public Works Lee Peck. Others present included Marilyn Lund, Mark Bettencourt, James Kennedy, Harrie Ashley and Steve Nordby.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tad Ames.

Jack Lenox presented a brief overview of the town of Plymouth with the assistance of Mike Gallerani and Lee Peck. Jack discussed the geographical aspects of Plymouth and how the town is working with DEM and other groups to protect and link open space. Mike spoke about the linkage of waterfront projects and the partnership between the town of Plymouth and DEM. Lee discussed several new projects that have been funded including the new wastewater facility, capital landfill, new well development for water supply, extension of the airport runway, the Beach Nourishment Project and new recreational facilities. Mike explained how a new golf course to be constructed on the Forgers Field property, which is adjacent to Myles Standish SF, is to be operated and maintained for the town by a tenant. Richard stated that 265 permits have been issued for single family homes since October 31. Richard also spoke about how funding from DEP will assist homeowners with low interest loans to improve their septic systems. According to Richard, the town has been working with state agencies and legislators to obtain funding assistance for coastal homeowners faced with several issues, including the possibility of losing their homes, due to erosion along the shoreline.

Marty Suuberg handed out and discussed the *Plymouth Rock Master Plan*. According to Marty, the two overriding purposes of the plan are to give the visitor a better experience interpreting Plymouth Rock and its environments, and to make sure that DEM's efforts tie in to the town of Plymouth's efforts. Marty explained the updating process which includes workshops and public meetings to look at new opportunities and new challenges. Marty stated that funding for the plan may be obtainable through a National Fundraising Campaign. Marty discussed several issues regarding the proposed Explorer Center/Cinema that National Geographic is interested in constructing on Cole's Hill. In conclusion, Marty stated that a contract has been awarded for a new comfort station at Pilgrim Memorial SP and the groundbreaking will take place after the meeting. Marty concluded by expressing the need for support. Debbie Cary asked if the Governor supported the plan and Commissioner Webber replied that Governor Cellucci is very interested.

Susan Hamilton handed out and discussed a summary of the *Centennial Marketing Plan* which included the main objective of DEM to increase support and awareness for Massachusetts State Forests and Parks as well as for the Centennial. Susan introduced a new Centennial logo, as well as the Centennial tag line 'Come Out and Play'. Susan presented merchandise samples and handed out and discussed the *Evaluation of the T-Shirt Pilot Program* which was very successful at Horseneck Beach and moderately successful at Salisbury Beach. Debbie Cary asked if DEM retained revenues from the sale of merchandise and Susan responded that the funds go into the 2nd Century Fund.

Patricia Karl moved to adopt the September and the October minutes. Debbie Cary seconded.

By unanimous vote of all members present the board approved the September and October meeting minutes.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT
Peter Webber informed the board that a switch mechanism to disengage the windmill at Halibut Point SP has been installed in response to several complaints and a petition from friends and neighbors regarding the noise associated with the windmill. According to Peter, Marty Suuberg is working with the Energy Office and DEM will continue to monitor. Peter stated that the first fundraiser for the Boston Harbor Islands took place this week and was very successful. Peter reported on the Plymouth Challenge which allocated 3 million dollars to maximize open space. Peter continued with a report on the Performance Enhancement Partnership Commission which DEM and DMR as partners, work to identify projects such as the Virtual Visitor Center and the Land Management Project. Peter concluded with a legislative update stating the session just ended and one key bill has been enacted by both the House and Senate on a unanimous vote freeing up $1.2 million dollars in accrued interest for various heritage State Parks. According to Peter, the supplemental budget request totaling $20 million, including a $2 million immediate needs request will be carried over to the next session. Debbie stated that she would like the board to view the list that documents the budget requests and Tad agreed. Peter informed the board of the meeting of a Special Legislative Commission on Forestry to take place in early December with DEM Forestry programs and forestry issues being the main agenda item.

BUDGET
Tad Ames reiterated the board's desire to remain involved in and support the budget process. Tad requested updates from appropriate staff either quarterly or in the event a project is changed. Debbie Cary expressed concern for voting to approve an inadequate spending plan. Patricia Karl responded that while the dollar amount may be inadequate, the board should vote to support spending on what dollars are available. Peter Webber informed the board of the upcoming second EOEA Budget Meeting.
Patricia Karl moved to approve the Capital Budget Spending Plan. Michael Last seconded.

By unanimous vote of board members present, the board approved the FY'98 Capital Budget Spending Plan.

Debbie Cary expressed concern that the Land Acquisition Budget is inadequate.
Michael Last moved to approve the Land Acquisition Spending Plan. Patricia Karl seconded.

By the majority vote of board members present, the board approved the FY'98 Land Acquisition Spending Plan.

Three in favor. Debbie Cary abstained.

Susan Frechette briefly discussed the Operating Budget which includes expansion for staff. Patricia Karl and Debbie Cary agreed that it is important for the board to know what operating needs remain unmet. Debbie stated that the board must be empowered with knowledge of the unmet needs in each region to push for increased funding. Discussion followed resulting in a motion to vote on Interim approval of the Operating Spending Plan until December's meeting when more information will be available for a final vote.
Michael Last moved. Patricia Karl seconded.

By unanimous vote of members present, the board voted in favor of Interim approval of the FY'98 Operating Spending Plan.

FORESTS AND PARKS REPORT
Todd Frederick reported that the CFI (Continuous Forest Inventory) has begun which includes identifying approximately 1400 plots, some of which are water plots. Michael Last suggested coordinating with Fisheries and Wildlife to identify wildlife habitats and Todd agreed. Todd provided an update on the Americorp Group working out of Holly Dubuque SF which has been working to develop programs for schools. Rangers now have the authority to write citations and the funds will go into the 2nd Century. Todd continued by explaining how F& P is

exploring new technology to advance the campground reservation system. According to Todd, ORV trails are now closed and meetings are being scheduled with user groups to review data collected. Todd revealed that turnout hasn't been great at the Regional Information Sharing Forums for Friends/Advisory groups that have been held in regions 2, 3 and 5 with upcoming meetings in regions 4 and 1; however, support is strong and he will continue to have the meetings on a regular basis. Todd concluded by announcing that DEM has been awarded the Environmentally Preferred Product which consists of 30 Natural Gas Trucks.

DRC REPORT

Marty Suuberg reported that in spite of the weather factor, most of the work has been completed on Greylock Summit as scheduled. Patrice Kish gave members a handout and discussed several options being considered for ADA access for the inner chamber of the tower. Marty introduce F& P Engineer Ruth Teixeira to report on the progress on Bascom Lodge and the Thunderbolt Ski Shelter. According to Marty a workshop is being held on December 9th (tentative) to talk about issues regarding the EIR and the Sustainability Report for Greylock Center.
Patrice Kish reported on the Historic Landscape Grant Program stating that 73 applications were received resulting in 18 projects selected for funding. According to Patrice, letters of notification will be going out soon as well as press releases and 3 to 4 regional events will take place to announce the awards.
Marty informed the board that progress is being made toward the plans for improving the summit of Mt. Wachusset. According to Marty a request has gone out for consultant services to work on the cultural and resources inventory.
Debbie requested an update on the Superintendent's House and Patrice stated that a lease is very close to being signed.
Marty concluded by announcing the appointment of Raul Silva to permanent Chief Engineer.

BOARD CONCERNS

Debbie Cary asked for an update on camping fees and Peter replied that the Massachusetts Association of Campground Owners have been generating letters in support of rate increases; however, there is a need to survey campers to seek public support from those who are most directly affected. Harrie Ashley expressed support for a tiered approach to camping fees.
Debbie Cary reported on the Land Acquisition Strategy meeting which was held in Gardner. According to Debbie, while there is a good process in place for acquiring land, there is a major backlog of identified and approved properties which led to her decision to abstain from voting to approve the Land Acquisition spending plan. Debbie expressed her concern for the lack of adequate funding resulting in lost opportunities, especially in the midst of a building boom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Kennedy of the Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council inquired about DEM's involvement in the availability of Otis AFB and Commissioner Webber responded that Chief of Legal Services for DEM Kate Lewis oversees land acquisitions and she has been monitoring the issues surrounding the base very closely. Mr. Kennedy added that the lack of a visitor center at Freetown SF should tie in to any decisions with regards to Otis AFB.
Mark Bettencourt stated that trail riders would contact legislators in support of DEM, should the purchase of the Acushnet Sawmills parcel to expand the trail system of Freetown SF be considered.
Mark requested a list of projects be broken down in a handout for the Region 1 Friends Group meeting scheduled to be held on December 3rd.
Mark asked the board to consider moving the 'Public Comment' segment of the meeting to an earlier time slot..

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Having concluded all business, the meeting adjourn at 2:50pm. The next meeting of the Board of Environmental Management will be held on December 17, 1997 at Auburn Rink.

December 1997
DEM Board Meeting
Canceled
due to
Lack of Quorum