Pleasant Bay Resource Management Alliance Steering Committee Meeting Minutes –January 6, 2009, 4:30 pm., Brewster Town Hall

In attendance: Members: Judith Bruce, Jane Harris, Chuck Bartlett, Jillian Douglass; Allin Thompson, Larry Ballantine; Coordinator: Carole Ridley.

Meeting minutes from December 2, 2008 were unanimously approved.

Carole provided the following updates:

Watershed Planning:

- The December work group meeting included a presentation on the Orleans DCWMP. Sewering in Pleasant Bay is pushed to later phases of implementation. The work group will be developing comments for a letter to MEPA, and this will be discussed at the January meeting.
- Status of Fertilizer and Muddy Creek Grants will be subject of January meeting also. Carole will contact Andrew Gottlieb again re: status and need for extension on the grant contract for the fertilizer study.

Muddy Creek Studies:

- Final comments were submitted to SMAST reflecting the last month's Steering Committee discussion, and a final draft is still awaited. The Steering Committee agreed that if the final draft comes back with all revisions, then the final invoice could be paid.
- The Alliance expects a decision from MCZM on the priority wetlands restoration status later this month. Carole spoke with Hunt Durie from the CZM program, as well as staff from Rep. Peake and Sen O'Leary. Mass Highway has sent in a support letter.

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- Graham Giese will issue a final report on his tide gage analysis in September. It will include three years data plus previous data, and will include Chatham fish pier data also. All data will be adjusted for atmospheric pressure.
- Mark Adams presented the intertidal map project to the Coastal Processes work group. He will
 use the project to develop an intertidal atlas, and we will work with him on a change analysis to
 measure changes in salt marsh, eelgrass, and other types of areas.
- The results of the Hydrographic surveys were presented at the December meeting also. The detailed data is still being reviewed by the work group to discuss how to package and present it publicly. The group is pleased with Roy Okurowski's/Coastal Engineering's work on the project.
- A possible public forum focusing on sediment management, present hydrographic surveys and discuss dredging and shoaling in being planned for the June timeframe.

No Discharge Area:

• There was a meeting with harbormasters and Steve McKenna regarding a NDA application and there is still lack of agreement on NDA boundaries and pump out facilities. The next step is to draft an application and share it with the local waterways committees. The Alliance will not submit a proposal to the CPR program due to lack of consensus among harbormasters.

Water Quality Program

- An effort will be made to get the interim report out this first quarter of 2009, but that will be a challenge because Shannon Cooke has left and her position is being re-advertised.
- Rich Delaney of the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies had presented an idea of the alliance joining a federal funding bill for water quality monitoring. However the steering committee agreed that annual federal appropriations are unlikely to succeed and could put the program at risk from year to year.

Administrative

• The last town to sign the Memorandum of Agreement will be Orleans on Jan 7, 2009. Signed Copies will be sent to all four towns.

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The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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