



**New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program
Management Committee Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2001
Location: EPA Offices at 290 Broadway**

(Draft Oct 19, 2001)

The Management Committee meeting was convened at 9:45 at 290 Broadway. Kevin Bricke chaired the meeting. It was noted that many members were on vacation and that they were being represented by alternates. Mr. Bricke reviewed the agenda and no changes were recommended. Minutes were approved as written.

Nancy Tran, an EPA summer intern working in the HEP office, gave a presentation on the Education Resource Guide that she had been working on. The guide is modeled after one produced by the Delaware Estuary Program and is designed to provide teachers with information about where to find teaching resources for estuarine programs. More than 50 resources are highlighted in the guide. The guide will be available in both hard copy as well as on the HEP website. As today is the last day of Nancy's internship, Laura Bartovics will complete the document.

Bob Nyman reviewed the new draft charges to the work groups. It was noted that the organizational framework needs to be finalized. Dick Draper suggested that reporting out by each of the groups would be useful and that they should play a role in the tracking of CCMP action implementation. He also suggested that dates be given to shoot for completing updates. It was agreed that future workplans be linked to the draft targets that are currently being set up. Minutes from each of the work groups will continue to be posted on the HEP website. Comments should be sent to Mr. Nyman on the charges in three weeks. The workgroups will also be asked to review them.

Marc Matsil gave an overview of two habitat sites that were nominated by the Habitat Work Group for inclusion on the HEP map for acquisition and restoration. The two sites were Merrill's Creek and Saw Mill Pond Addition. The Management Committee approved the sites, with the exception of NYC requesting additional time to review the information. Kevin Clark from NYC promised to send a letter indicating their position shortly. A letter will be prepared for transmittal of the Management Committee recommendation to the Policy Committee and seeking their approval of the sites.

Bob Nyman then reviewed the draft set of numerical targets that the Policy Committee had requested. It was agreed that Acting New Jersey Governor DiFrancesco's name be inserted into the draft agreement. Joe Chesonis suggested that "disposability" be added as one of the overall categories for organizing the targets. He said that use of the harbor for thermal and wastewater use was an important use. Dave Rosenblatt said that he thought disposal issues should be covered in the other categories and that reduction of loads would lead to increased fishability and swimability. Kevin Bricke said that perhaps the issue could be considered pollution prevention. Additional comments should be sent to Mr. Nyman within two weeks.

Dick Draper said that the current draft was the right approach on the general level. However, he added that the targets should be somewhat "out there", meaning extra effort would be needed to achieve them. They should be somewhat achievable. We should consider the implications on the HEP work plan and determine who will be doing things.

Frank Steimle suggested that landscape aesthetics should be considered. In other words, how do things look (floatables). Kevin Clark added that we need to have baselines for the targets. Dave Rosenblatt said HEP should coordinate with state goals and deadlines.

Nancy Steinberg suggested that we use a "headline" approach, with small print to discuss steps to achieve the targets. Need to better define what is a world class harbor estuary. Marc Matsil said that work was being done to see if nutrient goals could be developed for Zostera.

Tom Wakeman said he was working with the CAC and STAC on a front piece that would include small achievable actions in 2002. Kevin Bricke said his preference was for the CAC and STAC to keep their proceedings as a separate document from the targets. That way, they would not be constrained as to what they could say. Mr. Bricke continued that CAC and STAC could provide recommendations and be a part of the target setting process and that the whole program should adopt a shared set of goals. Mr. Draper agreed with Mr. Bricke. Mr. Wakeman continued that the public wants action and that we need to show progress to the congressional committees. Mr. Bricke said that he supported holding annual events leading up to the 2009 event. Ethan Yankowitz supported the idea of including sustainability in the targets. Ms. Steinberg said that environmental monitoring needed to be a part of the effort to see if we were meeting our goals. Mr. Rosenblatt said that goals and targets can be confusing and that we need to set structure. Regarding workgroups, Mr. Clark said he would help to integrate/coordinate the city's USA work. Mr. Blum thought sea level rise should be included. Comments on the draft targets are due to Mr. Nyman in two weeks.

Laura Bartovics reviewed the plans for the minigrant program and provided a handout with the schedule. Mr. Bricke said that the MCWG was empowered to approve the proposal review team and other issues.

It was suggested that a marketing strategy be developed using pro bono assistance, to achieve better program recognition.

The next meeting date was tentatively set for Oct 11, 2001.