

## **CBGN Working Group Minutes – July 14, 2005**

Steamboat Building, Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, St. Michaels MD

**Participating:** Elizabeth Hughes, Marci Ross, Melanie Teems, Robert Pickett, Lisa Gutierrez, Jonathan Doherty, Bob Campbell, Cheryl Branagan, Rod Torrez, Mike Land, Catherine Mueller; Guests EB James (Pickering Creek Audubon Center), Drew McMullen (Schooner Sultana), John Valliant (Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum), Janet Reingold, Krista Strumm (Reingold Inc); Shawn McPhilomy, Matt Ferguson (Price Waterhouse Cooper), Bob McIntosh (NPS-NER)

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting opened with a welcome by John Valiant, Director of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum.

The minutes from the May 11 and June 8 meetings were approved as written.

### **CBGN Strategic Planning Working Sessions**

Jonathan Doherty opened the session with a brief overview of the Strategic Planning Retreat, which was held on June 29 at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in Annapolis, MD. The goal of the Retreat was to help define the Network Priorities for future (2006-2008.)

Reingold drafted a summary of the events that occurred at Strategic Planning Retreat. Janet Reingold followed with a discussion about refining key goals and about the eight new broad goals from the retreat and original six Network goals have now become five goals that fit into the Department of the Interior (DOI) Strategic Plan and NPS Mission goals. The group focused on discussing goal number four. Team Reingold would like feedback on the goals by July 19.

### **Measuring CBGN Grant Effectiveness**

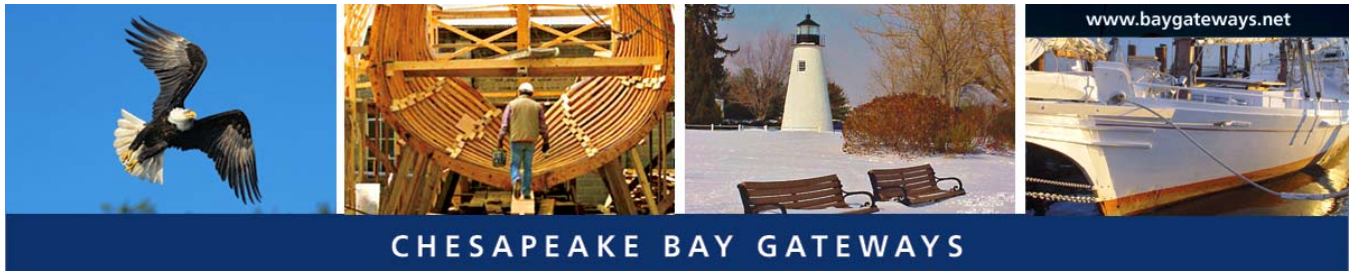
Jonathan Doherty introduced the PricewaterhouseCoopers team and its plan of action for creating grant outcomes for the network to use in evaluating how well our grants are helping Gateways. A copy of the presentation is attached. A working group participation meeting has been scheduled for Annapolis on July 25. Gateways participation meetings will be held the first week in August. Jonathan will follow-up with an email

### **Updates**



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*2005 Grants* – The discussions are almost complete and all but two award letters have been mailed to the recipients. The next step is the congressional notification and completion of the cooperative agreements. We will hold a new grantees workshop in August or September.

*Action Plan* - All of the tasks proposed to Congress in the action plan should be complete by the end of August with the exception of the Outcome Measurement Process which should be mid to late September.

*2006 Budget* – The Senate has approved 2 million for the Gateways Network and the House approved no funding. The final allocation will be determined in conference, most likely after the August break.

*John Smith Water Trail* – Legislation was introduced to explore the possibilities of a John Smith National Historic Water Trail, but was not passed. The Senate has attached the study authorization to the 2006 Appropriations bill.

*Baygateways.net* – We have several new items on the website including a new homepage animation, a “Best Gateways for ...” section, Changing the theme-based tours to driving tours, New fulfillment link, Highlights of Gateways funded events (openings). The webpage visits have increased 120% since last year, this is about 2000 visits a day.

### **Key Upcoming Meetings**

- **July 20:** CBGN Marketing Committee, Stratford Hall, Stratford VA
- **July 25:** Measurement Process Work Session, CBPO, Annapolis MD
- **August 1, 2 or 3:** Measurement Process Work Session with Gateways, TBD
- **September 14:** Working Group Meeting



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