

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

Chesapeake Bay Program Office, Fish Shack Conference Room, Annapolis MD

**Participating:** John Davy, Bob Carter, Lynn Bostain, Marci Ross, Melanie Teems, Robert Pickett, Terry Hough, Lisa Gutierrez, Chris Conner, Jonathan Doherty, Bob Campbell, Cheryl Branagan, Rod Torrez, Mike Land, Paula Degen, Catherine Mueller; Guests: Vicki Jones (Reingold, Inc)

The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m.

### **Updates**

*2005 Grants:* Jonathan Doherty noted that all 2005 grants have been awarded. A couple were provided at slightly lower levels than earlier anticipated due to match and scope of work changes. A new grantee workshop was held on September 8 at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation with a substantially expanded financial management module. Marci Ross stopped in to talk with these new grantees about “How to become a stakeholder” in the Gateways community. One grant announcement has been held with the Friends of the Rappahannock, which was attended by several officials including Senator Warner. A group announcement in Baltimore for the local grantees is pending.

*New Employee:* Paula Degen was introduced as a new staff member to assist with moving along several older grant projects.

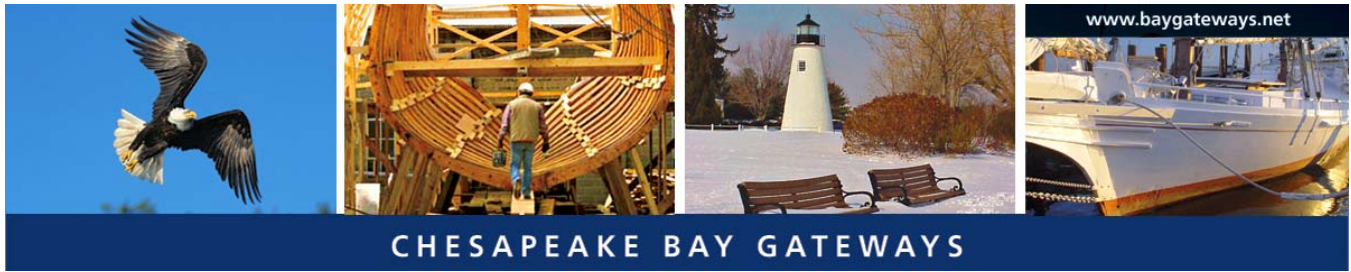
*Action Plan:* Jonathan Doherty reported that NPS is in the process of completing all work on the CBGN Action Plan developed to respond to last year’s congressional review. A completion report is planned to be submitted in early November.

*Status report 2000-2003 Grants:* Jonathan Doherty provided an overview of the status of 200-2003 grants. Of the 23 grants awarded in 2000, 22 were completed. One grant lapsed. Of the 34 grants awarded in 2001, 21 are complete; the remaining 10 are on various schedules for completion. Of the 2002 grants awarded, 40% are complete with 20% expected to be complete by the end of the year, and the remainder in coming months. The 2003 grants are progressing. Discussion and comment continued about how the staff has noticed that recent grants have become more business-like. The York River Water Trail (2003) project has developed several difficulties and will be dramatically down-scaled. They will also not be able to support activities beyond the Mattaponi and Pamunkey rivers. We anticipate a de-authorization of the York River



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Water Trail as a Gateways, or rather a conversion of it to a smaller scope focusing on the Mattaponi and Pamunkey rivers.

*Friends of Chesapeake Gateway:* Bob Carter reported that the Friends held their first board meeting. Scott Beatty has been recruited to chair the board and he has asked Bob Carter and several Gateway representatives to join the board. We anticipate meeting with the board at an upcoming Working Group meeting.

*John Smith Water Trail:* A national historic trail study will be undertaken by the National Park Service in Philadelphia as directed by Congress. The study will evaluate the feasibility of designating a national historic water trail following John Smith's travel routes. The draft study is anticipated for release by next August. Both Maryland DNR and Virginia DCR have undertaken several projects for the upcoming commemoration in 2007.

#### **CBGN Strategic Planning Review Session**

Working Group members participated in a detailed review of the draft strategic plan for the rest of the meeting.



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