**MIC Minutes**  
Friday, May 10, 2013  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Island Institute, 4th Floor Board Room  

**ATTENDEES**  
Aaron Fuchs, CFO, Island Institute  
Alden Finney (Great Diamond)  
Bev Roxby (Frenchboro)  
Caitlin Cleaver (Policy Coordinator, Island Institute)  
Donna Wiegle, Co-Chair (Swan’s, ISLE panelist)  
Eva Murray (Matinicus)  
Janet Anderson (Islesboro – filling in for Arch Gilles)  
Laurie Webber (Matinicus/Spruce Head, ISLE panelist)  
Lisa Shields (North Haven)  
Mark Greene (Long)  
May Hall (Chebeague, ISLE panelist)  
Paul Gleason (Great Diamond)  
Paula Brown (Programs Associate, Island Institute)  
Rob Snyder (President-elect, Island Institute)  
Roger Berle, Co-Chair (Cliff)  
Rudi Graf (Isle au Haut)  
Tara Hire (Monhegan, ISLE panelist)  

**BUSINESS**  

**Executive planning decisions for MIC Meetings (Roger Berle):**  
- Decisions jointly made by Roger Berle, Shey Conover and Caitlin Cleaver.  
  - Hold 5/10/13 meeting at Island Institute vs. Augusta due to planning conflicts.  
  - Defer island stores topic to November when quieter and store keepers/owners may attend.  

**Schedule for upcoming MIC Meetings (Roger Berle):**  
- Friday, August 16, 2013 – Location: Island Institute, Rockland  
- Friday, November 16, 2013 – Location: Island Institute, Rockland  
- Need to hear from legislators and Institute staff about most appropriate meeting times.  
- Four meetings annually are a commitment.  

**Content for August 16th MIC Meeting (Caitlin Cleaver):**  
- Energy efficiency, possibly including:  
  - Matinicus Plantation Electric Corporation update  
  - Heating systems for affordable housing (BTU capacity)  
- Possible speakers include: Bill Bartovics (North Haven); Bob Arnst (Chebeague)  
- Let Caitlin know if there are other energy topics you would like to see addressed.  

**Island Institute Update (Caitlin Cleaver):**  
- Caitlin is moving from Policy to direct full-time efforts in Marine Resources.  
- MIC acknowledged and thanked Caitlin for her work.  
- Hire for Community and Economic Development Director position (replacing Chris Wolff) is to be finalized week of 5/14/13.  
- This individual will provide logistical support for MIC.
MIC Contact List (Roger Berle):
- List was circulated among attendees.
  - Everyone was reminded to check their information for accuracy.

MIC Minutes (Roger Berle):
- Minutes from 3/14/13 were approved with following correction:
  - Swan’s Community Check-In – “Five fishermen participate once a week for 16 [not 60] weeks.”
- Reminder to staff – circulate minutes within a week of meeting date.
- Reminder to staff to summarize – keep minutes short and sweet with bulleted info.

MIC Treasurer’s Report (Roger Berle for Rudi Graf):
- Nine islands have submitted 2013 dues.
  - Outstanding: Frenchboro, Isle au Haut, Matinicus, Monhegan
  - Rudi Graf: Isle au Haut dues were sent directly to Island Institute.
  - Bev Roxby: Frenchboro dues were sent directory to Island Institute.
- Roger Berle: Please send dues to me so I can endorse and make payable to Maine Island Coalition.
- Tara Hire: Monhegan dues were approved 4/13.
- Treasurer’s Report was accepted.

Broadband Connectivity Update (Aaron Fuchs):
- Island Institute has made broadband connectivity a priority in current three-year Strategic Plan.
- Some island areas lack coverage – real issue is “middle mile” out to and around islands.
- Rob Snyder has asked Aaron Fuchs to identify specific islander needs.
  - Chebeague.net is an example – contracted with Axiom Technologies, engineered for each house to provide what is missing.
- DSL goes through phone.
- Telecoms are regulated by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and can be pressured to conform to regulations; private entities like TW Cable and GWI are not regulated through PUC.
- Aaron Fuchs appealed to all MIC members to provide him with information and will email a form with specific questions, such as:
  - Who provides your cable service?
  - What problems do you have with it?
  - What is missing from your coverage (e.g., what parts of the island are “dead zones”)?
  - Do you get coverage through computer, smart phone, or combination?
- Island Institute plans to:
  - Raise funds
  - Contract engineering studies for each island
  - Outline infrastructure needs and costs – each island is unique
  - Explore funding initiatives through USDA and other entities.

Town Reports (Roger Berle):
- Anyone who has not submitted a Town Report and has it available by the August MIC Meeting (8/16/13), please bring it then.

MIC Committee (Roger Berle):
- Betsy Weiber from Great Diamond resigned from MIC.
  - Paul Gleason has replaced Betsy Weiber as Great Diamond’s MIC representative.
  - Alden Finney is now Great Diamond’s senior representative, and has the deciding vote.
ISLE DISCUSSION

Background (Caitlin Cleaver):

- “Thank you” to our ISLE participants here today:
  - Donna Wiegle (Swan’s)
  - Laurie Webber (Matinicus/Spruce Head)
  - May Hall (Chebeague)
  - Tara Hire (Monhegan)

- Overview:
  - ISLE program supports current and emergent island leaders through a one-year intensive training program.
  - Conducted in partnership with Leadership For Local Change (http://www.leadershipforlocalchange.org/)
  - Offered free to applicants from island communities
  - Frenchboro and Cliff are the only islands that have not had ISLE participants.

- Program comprised of:
  - three in-person weekends
  - virtual sessions in between
  - mentorship afterwards

- Graduation statistics:
  - Year 1: 18 individuals

- Recruitment for Year 3:
  - Ongoing through September 20, 2013. Please spread the word!
  - Printed fact sheet and application materials are available.
  - Participant project summaries are available – ISLE will embrace a wide range of projects.
  - Caitlin will send materials digitally to MIC members.

Success Stories:

May Hall (Chebeague):

- Business plan was to begin process of a start-up non-profit organization with two components: education through current nonprofit programs for potential entrepreneurs
- Vocational, educational planning will be provided through rec. center for first few years.
- Five-year plan of fundraising ($500K) and grant writing
- Hope to create 3,600 foot new shared use facility, including:
  - classroom
  - office
  - 1,800 foot storage
  - shared kitchens
- May be located on May’s property or a donated property
- Non-profit would subsidize first three months of a new business, including:
  - business plan development
  - product planning
  - product testing
  - product production
  - product storage.
- Businesses would rotate to use facility
- ISLE provided me with:
  - Tools to understand business workings
  - Tools to tell my story via numbers
  - Courage to explore how similar shared use facilities are working in ME and NH
  - Empowerment to look at other project choices if this one doesn’t materialize
- Reasons behind business choice:
Wants to support small business in island communities.
Currently, food products are being made in home kitchens that are not set up/licensed for commercial food preparation.
  - This can cause food borne illness, which can ruin a manufacturer financially.
  - Wants to teach people how to create a safe home kitchen.

Summary:
- May had several “aha!” moments during the ISLE program, some tumultuous.
- Knew she wanted to help island youths leaving high school realize their dreams.
- Find out what community needs and how your project can meet those needs.

Donna Wiegle (Swan’s):
- Business plan expands an existing elder outreach program on Swan’s. More than 60 of our 300 year-round residents are over 65 years of age.
- ISLE was very empowering to me too; I didn’t know what to expect.
- Thought support staff and trainers did an amazing job.
- ISLE provided me with:
  - Ability to create a viable business plan (15 pages)
  - Tools to make financial projections
  - Confidence to share my story.
- Current work includes:
  - Creating a 5013C
  - Drafting bylaws for Board of Directors
  - Introducing the plan to islanders.
- Future work includes:
  - Fundraising (already has $13,800 so far, including one $7K donation)
  - Will ask Town of Chebeague for $5K in funding next year and going forward
    - Can’t bill MaineCare, Medicare or private insurance. Families pay privately for home health visits now; but program will supplement whatever families can afford to pay in the future.
- Programs will encompass:
- Home health visits
  - Island resident (young mother of two) has an Occupational Therapy degree and Personal Support Specialist (PSS) certificate – would be fantastic in this role.
  - Would like to have two young people get CNA training.
  - New Island Fellow in healthcare will be coming to Swan’s in September 2013.
    - Hope she will work on developing/implementing programs.
    - If she wants to stay a second year, feel the community would embrace it.
  - Great group of “young” seniors on-island who are willing volunteers.
  - Donna is currently taking a Hospice Volunteer program and has CPR training
    - Town lost two residents (ages 50 and 60) this spring; both were Hospice patients but no Hospice volunteer was on the island.
- Elder care education
  - Senior exercise class started 12/12
  - Good for physical health but also a social opportunity
  - Oldest member is 95 and drives himself to the class.
- Transportation needs will be considered.
- Medical clinic has a “loan” closet with walkers, canes, etc.
- Islander outreach efforts
  - Establishing communication with people is important.
  - Called a heart attack victim last night, and asked what do you need? He thinks he has it under control, but I’ve opened the door and he now knows he can call me.
- Confident it’s a sustainable program, and funding will be there, that people will want to support it.
- Have great relationship with MDI Hospital.
- Hope to partner with Hancock Home Health
  - Workers would be covered by their insurance.
Workers would only see patients on-island.

Summary:
- We need to do a better job taking care of people who are an important part of our community and have a rich past to share; they don't want to move off-island. This program doesn't say, "you can stay on the island until you die," but it will make it easier to stay as long as possible.
- ISLE also stressed the importance of inter-island relationships and cooperation. We all came away with continuing, established friendships.

**Tara Hire (Monhegan):**
- Assuming a leadership role in a small community like Monhegan (app. 45 people) can be overwhelming and intimidating. Having the chance to network with people from other islands was very supportive; made her feel less isolated. It was also beneficial to learn about other islands and their cultures.
- ISLE provided:
  - Basic leadership skills
  - Coping skills
    - Speak your truth
    - Walk your talk
    - Don’t take things personally
    - Be kind to yourself
    - Don’t make assumptions
- Business plan is to create an attractive, cooperative retreat destination that combines tourism with wellness/creativity (yoga, meditation, writing, etc.). Her partners in this will be the owners of the Trailing Yew, which offers breakfast and lunch with rooms.
- Tara’s background is varied but centers around nutrition and customer service—she ran a summer restaurant for two years, and the island grocery for the past six years.
- Summary:
  - Tara is taking small steps to break down her business plan in workable chunks. “Eat an elephant one bite at a time.”

**Laurie Webber (Matinicus/Spruce Head):**
- Family moved off Matinicus full-time in 1989; now live in Spruce Head nine months out of the year. Husband works on Matinicus nine months out of the year.
- Laurie is an Ed Tech by profession; stays in the job because of health insurance costs ($224 per month versus over $1,000 per month). Started her own business, “Sea Glass Graphics” which she could do from Matinicus.
- ISLE:
  - Provided exercises that pulled me out of my comfort zone.
  - Supplied methods to help me overcome my fear of public speaking
  - Taught me that preparedness can decrease anxiety.
- Summary:
  - I am no longer held back by my weaknesses, and am more responsible for what happens in my life. I’ve learned to set small goals to achieve larger ones. The most important business skill I acquired was to think outside the box, and that by throwing my stone in the water, it creates a ripple effect.

**General Talking Points:**
- It would be interesting to hold a MIC retreat at Tara's venture on Monhegan.
- It could be beneficial to track how many businesses are established as a result of ISLE.
- Of 15 entries in the recent Island Biz Plan Contest, 3 came from ISLE graduates.
- ISLE businesses don't have to be new ventures; they can grow from existing ones.
- ISLE continues to support graduates with mentorship.
• ISLE does not distinguish between profit and non-profit businesses when screening applicants; the end result is to create a viable business plan with an aspect of social change which meshes with the individual’s skills.
• The Island and Coastal Innovation Fund (ICIF) is actively looking for “scale-able” businesses that can support the owners and employees. Example: letter of credit recently supplied to a builder that allowed him to operate on-island.
  o Island Institute and ICIF would like support small island businesses that want to expand beyond their geographic boundaries.
• ISLE operates on a slightly different model than individual education plans (IEPs); three weekends off-island are already challenging.
• Advocacy (for yourself and others) and professional presentation are part of the ISLE training; you learn to leave past baggage behind.
• ISLE has shown that not all leaders work in active leadership roles; they create change in their own quiet way.
• If just one person believes in a project and has the passion (like Eva Murray’s trash recycling initiative on Matinicus), you CAN make it happen!
• The most recent ISLE cohort has kept their energy level up through a Facebook group page.
• Several members asked if Ann Marie Almeida (Director of Leadership For Local Change) is available to do outreach/public speaking.
• It’s a struggle to get ISLE applicants; sharing personal connections will help boost enrollment, especially among men (4 of 15 in the 2013 class were male).
• ISLE helps break down traditional role-playing among men and women.

ISLAND INSTITUTE POLICY REPORT

(Rob Snyder):
• Lobbying Efforts:
  o Island Institute has been working with attorney Avery Day of Pierce Atwood, LLP, in Portland
    ▪ Cell phone: (857) 998-2496
    ▪ Avery’s stipend this legislative session – $15K
    ▪ Work to date amounts to less than retainer amount
    ▪ Very pleased with his work
    ▪ He is amenable to calls on short notice, happy to be a resource and give updates
    ▪ Avery is not empowered to speak on behalf of the Institute
    ▪ Trying to figure out how to more explicitly partner with him as a lobbyist
  o Want to channel info to MIC before next session on bills of interest to the island communities
• Community Energy:
  o Fox Island Wind and Fox Island Electric Co-Op – work against rolling back the decibel level on the wind farm. Hard to imagine that legislation would go anywhere; we made sure we knew who we were talking with.
• Education:
  o Legislation to restructure teacher certification.
  o Ruth Kermish-Allen (Education Director) testified against eliminating multi-age classroom teaching.
• Marine Policy:
• Searsport Harbor Dredging:
  o Island Institute provided comments on Army Corps of Engineers’ Searsport Harbor dredging proposal.
  o Too many inconsistencies in proposal
  o Feel that they wish to go much deeper than maintenance requires
  o Suggested they need to go through full EIS and public hearing
  o Think they are using NOAA dump sites for convenience instead of creating new Penobscot Bay dump sites
• Searsport Harbor LPG Terminal:
• LPG gas terminal in Searsport Harbor is a dead issue.

• Ocean Acidification:
  o Currently drafting a joint resolution for Maine State Legislature on the impact ocean acidification has on Maine fisheries industry
  o If passed, creates a window for future dialogue – “Getting the nose of the camel in the tent”
  o Issue hasn’t been politicized like climate change; doesn’t fall on one side of the aisle or the other
  o Can be tied to region’s economics, e.g., changing availability/viability of species like shellfish (baby lobster and clam shell development)
  o Concerned given recent history in MA and RI
  o We have data that can be explained
  o This asks for State to ask NOAA and other agencies to fund ocean acidification research.

• Lobster industry Unionization:
  o Island Institute not involved in any major way
  o Interested in hearing what others think and are saying
  o Might herald a new entity that challenges existing efforts re: branding/marketing Maine lobster
  o Lack of clarity of intent from any one part of the industry makes it easier for Legislature to do nothing
  o If lobster industry ends up being perceived as represented by unions, Republicans will have a lot less interest in anything we have to say.
  o Supportive of Maine Lobsterman’s Association – Patrice McCarron sits on Institute Board
    ▪ She’s not opposed to union representation, but concerned about promises being made and whether they can follow through on those promises.
  o If a union causes the relationship between sternmen and captains to be strained, Maine could end up with a whole new class of employment
  o Possible disastrous consequences (e.g., unemployment six months per year, Worker’s Comp issues, etc.)

ISLAND UPDATES

Beverly Roxby (Frenchboro):
  • Hasn’t been to the island since October 2012.
  • Dramatic changes in past year on a small island of 40-50 people.
    o Very tense “we vs. they” atmosphere.
      ▪ Bev Roxby has spoken with Maine Seacoast Mission about fostering a program to help residents find common ground.
    o Summer population is 75-80. Year-round population is 45-50.
    o Homes are for sale, with dropping prices.
    o Some people with school age children want to find another place to live.
  • Annual report will be completed by end of May.
  • Frenchboro has no comprehensive plan.
    o Rudi Graf: State does not require you to have a comprehensive plan, but without one, ordinances are more easily challenged in court. State planning office has been disbanded.
  • Bev’s husband is on Selectboard; she is on School Committee.
    o Selectboard will downsize from five to three members.
    o Two of those three have terms expiring and are not interested in re-election (including Bev’s husband).
  • Michael Collerin (Town Administrator) lives in Portland and has been with Frenchboro two years
    o He resigned.
    o Salary is decent enough to attract a replacement, but not sure if it will happen.
  • No Town Clerk in place
    o A part-time resident has been volunteering; a full-time resident (and mother of two) has offered to do it.
  • Lost a school teacher due to island politics.
    o Hiring a teacher and part-time principal – interviews on 5/17.
Two other islands have openings, so it’s a challenge.
- No Island Fellow in place.
- Harbor ordinance is up for renewal or being created.
  - Army Corps wants everyone to be on board, but “we’ve always done it this way.”
  - That would be breaking the law, and they won’t even dredge the harbor.
- Solid waste issues continue.
  - People “from away” do 90% of this work.
  - Town bought an 8’ x 10’ plastic shed from Home Depot but it blew over this winter.
  - No more free ferry tickets to people taking recycling off island due to lack of funds.
- Work on wellness center is dead in the water as islanders couldn’t match promised funding or agree on space.
- Deli is being run by off-island woman from GA.
  - Won’t be closing at 7 p.m.
- Monarch butterflies are here and we’re distributing milkweed for them to eat!
- Artist Dahlov Ipcar did a great mural on interior of the church.
- Aaron Fuchs: Frenchboro has a fund for preservation of historic buildings in the Institute’s general endowment.
  - I just dispersed $17K.
  - Church gets two shares, historical society one share, school gets one share.
  - Once they get the money, they have to disperse and show us they’ve used it.

Lisa Shields (North Haven):
- In April 2013, North Haven had its first auto fatality since 1943.
  - 20-year-old Evan Hopkins (Eric Hopkins’ son) was killed due to alcohol and speed.
  - Community rallied to support family and emergency responders.
  - Our minister Dave is both the ambulance driver and chaplain for the EMTs. He had to respond and then tell the mother
    - EMTs and Fire Department were concerned about his emotional health.
    - Posted a message on Facebook for donations and got $2,500 in 10 days.
    - Sent Dave to Isle au Haut for a sabbatical, which he found very healing.
- Jim McCloud, Maine State Ferry Service Manager, moved to another job outside government.
  - In the process of hiring a replacement.
- Bridge leading to a spit of land had to be rebuilt.
  - Now lobstermen are saying it’s way too high to offload traps.
- If you want to stay at Nebo Lodge, make reservations now for 2015.
  - Written up as #5 in Bon Appetit’s inn and restaurant reviews
  - Featured in both May’s Yankee and Downeast
- Two North Haven residents involved with ISLE and Island Biz Plan Contest:
  - Little Urchin Bakery (Courtney Naliboff) – 1st place
  - Fox i Printworks (Sam Hallowell)

Mark Greene (Long):
- Long Island turned turns20 years old July 1st – seceded from City of Portland in 1993
  - Celebration will focus on bringing back lobster boat races
- Recent propane crisis was a great case of an ISLE graduate on the go.
- Town meeting is 5/11/13. Mark Greene is the only moderator Long has ever had.
- Long time public works subcontractor doubled his prices.
  - Selectmen replied they needed to review and place work out to bid.
  - Bids announced last week; he didn’t get the work – price difference was significant.
  - Many residents are unhappy with this decision.
- Sam Whitener (ISLE graduate) is up to for Selectboard election.
- Last MIC meeting, announced purchase of a four-bedroom house in conjunction with Genesis Community Fund.
  - Lacked resources, withdrew bid.
Also didn’t want to compete with Community Center’s fundraising effort.
Also withdrew bids on two Maine State Housing properties.

Donna Wiegle (Swan’s):
- Health center options include:
  - senior exercise
  - diabetes education sponsored by MDI Hospital
    - Now in 15th of 16 weeks
    - Consists of 12 successful graduates
    - Have collectively lost over 160 pounds
    - Represents five lobstermen and sternmen
    - Seeing results – will be a sustainable program running again next Jan. – April
- Construction is on the rise – builders are busy and new houses are going up.
- Single stream recycling is beginning.
  - Pad on building has been poured, structure will go up.
- Currently four EMTs on island
  - New one finishing this week (Donna’s husband)
- School needs new 6-8th grade teacher.
  - School board decided not to renew current teacher’s contract.
- Lobster trap limit:
  - Had been 475 per license
  - State limit is 800 per license
  - Polled last fall with 82% return
    - 30 wanted it to be raised to 600
    - 26 wanted it to remain at 475
  - Marine Resources Committee voted to raise limit to 550 per license.
- Lobster license bill was voted down.
- Electric co-op is in shaky position.
  - Two-year interim manager is resigning at end of summer
  - No full-time lineman
    - Compensation has been increased
    - Currently advertising
- Huge rate increase for islanders – minimum charge is $30; probably go to $50-$60 before all is done
- Accepted $800K loan to restrung poles and lines
- Question letting Bangor Hydro take over
- Crime spree last fall and winter
  - New police chief began in January and will get criminals in line
- Working with Maine Medical Center on vector borne disease program
  - Collecting ticks for Lyme disease (deer themselves don’t get it)
  - Collected blood samples from 25 deer in last fall’s hunt
    - MMC testing Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)
    - MMC not testing for West Nile
  - Not much data on East coast
  - Donna received email this week – one sample tested positive for EEE
  - Venison is fine to eat
  - One horse owner on island will be notified – equine vaccine is available
- Swan’s does have a comprehensive plan (circa 1984) and three selectmen

Rudi Graf (Isle au Haut):
- March town meeting quiet
- School budget passed no comment
  - IaH is most expensive school in ME
    - $62K per pupil
  - Four pupils
- Two teachers
- Two affordable houses will be done in June
  - Occupants already chosen for both
    - One family has six-month-old; other is childless
  - Didn’t receive many applications
- Controversial vote to subsidize island store for $30K.
  - Strings attached – year-round residents/taxpayers must become members
  - $10.00 fee
  - Waiting for store Board’s decision – charging fee could be illegal
- Boat company got $40K subsidy
- Black Dinah is expanding
  - Opened retail store in Blue Hill
  - Offers breakfast six days per week until end of summer, including summer brunch with music
- **Rudi Graf**: I recently met sailor Nigel Calder, chatted about islands.
  - Calder talked about the Hebrides (531 islands) resembling islands in Penobscot Bay
  - Questioned partnering with them, especially re: school exchange programs
  - **Rob Snyder**: Two Vinalhaven teachers (Karen Burns and Yvonne Thomas, a Board member) won fellowships this year to travel through Hebrides to learn/develop relationships/challenges
  - Focus now is on what kind of fund needs to be developed to support an exchange program, and around solving specific challenges:
    - species availability
    - education
    - food
    - energy, etc.
- **Rob Snyder**: Last nine months – Institute has worked on restating mission statement.
  - How to articulate?
    - Sustain Maine’s year-round island communities is a no-brainer
    - Debate about whether that includes remote coastal communities
      - Recent work has also pulled in Outer Banks, Alaska, Southern Oregon Coast, etc.
  - There are 89 year-round unbridged communities under 10,000 people in U.S. lower 48 and along coast of Alaska
  - What is our role? Do we have an obligation to share what we’re learning? Board said yes.
  - Exchange of information and experiences is holistic, but brings explicit parameters
  - Relationship to the communities needs to be secondary to the voices we’re supporting. Incubator model
  - Bring together brightest people from communities we work with and support their decisions
    - Don’t see that changing.

**Tara Hire (Monhegan):**
- Monhegan’s population is about 45 people year-round.
- Monhegan Island Sustainable Community Association (MISCA) closed on a property May 15th
  - Dropped Maine State Housing grant
  - Fundraised enough money to buy property outright. Will need additional fundraising for restoration.
  - Will be rented or sold to a year-round resident
  - Store on property as well – Lisa Brackett would rent that space
- Monhegan Plantation Power District (MPPD) received $450K rural development grant Fall 2012
  - Will upgrade system, including new smaller generator
  - Power need is less in winter
- Tara Hire went to composite lab at UMaine Orono to look at wind power platform project
  - If they receive larger grant, Monhegan may be able to tie into wind power
- Volunteer fire department
  - Two old fire trucks
  - Fire barn needs rebuilding
• Population is decreasing all the time
  o Who will be attracted? What do they want?
• School is great
  o Healthy budget
  o One full-time student (1st grade) and two preschoolers
• No tele-medicine and no space for it
• Monhegan pays over $100K to Lincoln County
  o Are there other services that could come back our way?
• Tara Hire received a call about the Mid Coast Economic District’s Assembly, June 13th, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
  o Asking for Island Institute support to attend remotely
• Would like to see if other islands are interested in creating a joint Chamber of Commerce
  o Would provide better buying power for advertising
• Is MIC interested in creating a private Facebook page?
• Who has websites for their town?
  o Monhegan does not.
  o Response time for inquiries is very poor, two weeks or more.
  o Mark Greene: Please have Institute staff email all MIC attendees, asking for websites, newsletter info and contact info

Alden Finney (Great Diamond):
• Construction has started on the Inn at Diamond Cove – asbestos removal, etc.
  o Think developer took title from City of Portland
  o Has gotten some permits. Once they do, they owe $10K per month assessment to Diamond Cove Homeowner’s Association.
  o There will be 22 units, each with a separate lock-out bedroom and bath. This is equivalent of 44 rental units.
  o Hotel will be managed by Heart Hotel Association
    Heart Hotel Association taking over management of Diamond’s Edge restaurant
  o Former manager to return
• Hoffner has contacted the Maine State Library.
  o Trying to get a grant to create a library in the Diamond Cove administrative building
  o Casco Bay lines will ship books free of charge.
  o There would be access to an online database and interlibrary loan.
  o Also a tax break which includes access to high speed WiFi.

Eva Murray (Matinicus):
• Matinicus Plantation Electrical Company (MPEC) is working on the same grant as Monhegan to upgrade to more efficient costs.
  o Have written why we don’t have wind turbines.
  o Hopefully will include a small renewable component, probably solar.
  o We still need the diesel plant.
• Town meeting in April was short and peaceful.
• School:
  o Board of Assessors doesn’t run school. Separate corporations.
  o Hiring a new superintendent.
  o Teacher is staying another year.
  o Student Emma Van Dyne is looking at ME and NH boarding schools.
  o Our kids talk to one-room school in Decker, MT.
  o Knox Co. Emergency Management is trying to certify the school as an emergency warming shelter.
    ▪ It has a stove; this would allow them to get a generator, should there be another ice storm.
• One man (George ___) serves as city hall, water taxi, veterinarian, builder.
• Don’t have a store.
• Don’t have an affordable housing committee.
• No travel subsidies.
• Looking at comprehensive plan; still part of unorganized territories under Land Use Regulation Committee (LURC).
• Work on airstrip made it through winter just fine.
• One guy from New Zealand just got U.S. citizenship.
  o There’s talk about a party on Flag Day with beer and hotdogs to celebrate.
  o He wants to go lobstering.
• Our economy is entirely lobstering-based.

Paul Gleason (Great Diamond):
  Island overview:
    o 414 acres in size
    o Uniquely divided into three separate portions
      ▪ One owned by Diamond Island Association (dock, tennis court, hall, etc.)
      ▪ One owned by Diamond Cove Homeowner’s Association (separate rules and regulations – asked for a new island zone from city, allowed by city of Portland, but they imposed conditions which deal with water and land transportation, etc.)
      ▪ One owned by Al Glickman’s widow, Judy (he died last week).
        • Family has never developed any portion of the island.
        • They did at one point have their portion surveyed for water lines and housing development (app. 70 houses).
        • Family may decide they don’t want to hold onto it, and it may be developed... could be a concern
        • Roger Berle: Philip Conkling and I talked to them about a conservation easement about 8 years ago. Came away empty handed.
      ▪ Bev Roxby: Gilbert Butler’s property will be on the market soon. We’re looking for a conservation easement.
  • Roger Berle: (Cliff):
    • School:
      o Island Institute’s Teaching and Learning Collaborative (TLC) annual outing will be with Cliff; however, it’s going to take place in Portland.
      o Kids and teacher very excited about getting together.
      o School has four students.
      o Three island children are preschool age.
      o Three young families may have more children as well.
    • Sustainable Cliff Island (SCI) has been created to apply this resource to whatever the island needs.
      o Major septic system is being moved.
      o Storms cleaned out trees on leach fields.
      o SCI is working to obtain 25 acres that the barge landing is on.
      o Will allow the septic system to have a leach field there.
      o May put the Public Works Department on one acre of this land in a swap with the city, so we can capture the most important lot on the island, which has sat vacant for 10 years. Then we can get a working waterfront grant, but it’s very intricate.
    • Store owner for 30 years owned the building, has leased the space.
      o Donated the land to the NH Charitable Trust, and they are trying to sell it.
      o No one is buying it, concern about contract for store operator.
      o Would like to have a resource for the store owners as well as the teachers with affordable housing.
    • Joined with Chebeague in 1974 to start lobster conservation zone.
      o Had hoped to start with 400 trap limit and work it down to 200 traps.
      o Spencer Appollonio endorsed this.
      o Failed to fly.