

Michigan Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee  
Wednesday, November 13, 2013  
Michigan Historical Center  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room  
Lansing, Michigan 48915  
Meeting Minutes

**Committee Members – Present**

Ron Bloomfield – Public Member/Michigan Underwater Preserve Council (MUPC)  
Sandra Clark – Department of natural Resources (DNR)/Michigan Historical Center  
Tom Graf – Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

**Committee Members – Via Conference Call**

Peggy Kurpinski - Public Member/SCUBA Experience  
Pete Lindquist - Public Member/Munising  
Wayne Lusardi - DNR/Michigan Historical Center  
Terry Begnoche – Public Member/Whitefish Point  
Wade Hamilton – DNR/Law Enforcement Division (LED)

**Staff**

Michelle Davis – DNR/Michigan Historical Center

**Guest**

State Archaeologist Dean Anderson

**Members of the Public**

Jim Scholz  
Daniel Friedhoff

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Bloomfield, seconded by Graf, the April 24, 2013, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Bloomfield, seconded by Graf, the August 7, 2013, meeting minutes were approved as amended.

**Public Comment**

Jim Scholz, president of Southwest Michigan Underwater Preserve, spoke to the Committee regarding a proposal to conduct an archaeological site investigation on an underwater wreck that has been discovered near New Buffalo. Scholz presented the committee with information obtained up to this point and explained the future goals of the investigation. By excavating the sand from within the wreck it may be possible to identify which wreck this may be and determine if any artifacts remain. Intentions are to open it up

for full documentation and make it a diveable wreck. It was discussed that an Archaeological Exploration on State Owned Land may be the best permit to begin with for this particular project. A Dredging Permit may also be necessary.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Law Enforcement**

Hamilton reported that on water patrols have slowed down. On September 5, 2013, DNR successfully removed over 300 feet of Gill Net from a popular shipwreck in Whitefish Bay Underwater Preserve. This is a popular shallow water recreational dive location that caused a very dangerous situation. A Tribal Gill Net was entangled at this location and removed in a coordinated effort by the DNR Commercial Fish Enforcement Unit with assistance from MSP dive team and Tribal Law Enforcement officers. The *Hiram W. Sibley* (wooden propeller freighter, 221', 1419 gt, built in 1890 at E. Saginaw, MI) capstan cover has been recovered. LED will work with Wayne Lusardi on the proper documentation and loan forms.

#### **New Permit Applications**

No new permit applications for underwater preserves or salvage have been received. Begnoche noted they will be applying for a permit the first part of 2014.

### **Old Business**

Bloomfield will electronically distribute a buoy project draft with the intention of it being a main item of discussion at the next meeting.

No information has been received on appointments. Members serve until they are replaced or reappointed.

A wood stake was brought up from the site some have associated with the Griffon. A CT scan was done and sent for analysis to Cornell University. Other test may also be conducted.

### **Member Updates**

#### **Michigan Underwater Preserve Council – Ron Bloomfield**

Elected Deb Chase, president; Larry Sanders, vice-president; Janet Petersen, treasurer; Dan Friedhoff, secretary.

#### **Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve –Wayne Lusardi**

A great deal of material that had been exposed by low lake levels is currently underwater again.

#### **Whitefish Point – Terry Begnoche**

Attendance was up and it was a good year for all.

**Other Comments:**

Straits of Mackinac Shipwreck Preserve - Daniel Friedhoff

It was a great season. Various fundraisers and donations resulted in earnings over \$5,000. Cheboygan will add a new boat to its venue next season and will carry larger groups. Work has begun on creating a shipwreck museum on the grounds of Mackinaw Historic Parks and they will be looking for donations of artifacts and/or money.

The Committee will soon be notified of the meeting dates selected for 2014.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:50 p.m.

  
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Tom Graf, Chairperson