

Michigan Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee
Wednesday, April 29, 2015
Michigan Historical Center
5th 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)
Gail Vander Stoep – Member representing Travel Michigan/Michigan State University

Committee Members – Present Via Conference Call

Terry Begnoche – Public Member/Whitefish Point
Pete Lindquist – Public Member/Munising
Wayne Lusardi – DNR/Michigan Historical Center
Dave Shaw – DNR/Law Enforcement Division (LED)

Staff

Michelle Davis – DNR/Michigan Historical Center

Members of the Public

Daniel Friedhoff
John Halsey

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

Bloomfield made a motion to approve the agenda without changes; the motion was seconded by Vander Stoep, and was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

Bloomfield made a motion to approve the February 4, 2015, meeting minutes; the motion was seconded by Clark, and was unanimously approved.

Public Comments

No public comments

Committee Reports

Law Enforcement

Shaw reported there are 37 new officers currently in the academy and will graduate in June 2015. They will have training in underwater law and artifact issues.

One complaint was received from the Detroit area regarding an artifact listed for sale on Craig's List. It was alleged that the artifact may have come from a Great Lakes shipwreck. The DNR Law Enforcement special investigation unit looked into this

matter and they were unable to tie the artifact to any known Great Lakes shipwreck. Therefore, there was no disciplinary action taken.

New Permit Applications

No new permits have been received. The permit for the recovery of the *Comet* safe is good through December 2015.

Steve Libert, Great Lakes Exploration Group LLC, has been in contact with the State Archaeologist inquiring about what type of permit is necessary in order to sample a piece of wood at an underwater site.

Lusardi and State Archaeologist, Dr. Dean Anderson, plan to go out and look at an underwater small tug or barge at a West Michigan site. Currently, there is no known record on file for this tug or barge. The state police also plan to take a look at it during the month of June 2015.

Old Business

Centralized Buoy Project

On April 2, 2015, the Department of the Army authorized a set of 139 mooring buoys. A discussion took place on possible ways to handle the remaining 32 buoys that are still in contention. The decision was made to request permits for sub-surface buoys at a depth of 30 feet with 21 need class 3 buoys. DEQ will not require additional authorization for the remaining 32. Clark will ask the Department of the Army for a 30-day extension for the 32 buoys in order to allow finalize the necessary documents. (I am not sure this is all accurate! The discussion took over an hour and I am not sure how much to put in the minutes...) Bloomfield and Lusardi will work on establishing standard procedures for installing the buoys.

New Business

Graf reported the DEQ web page <http://www.michigan.gov/shipwrecks> has been updated and now includes many additional links.

Member Updates

Friedhoff reported the Straits of Mackinac Shipwreck Museum should be opening sometime in mid-May 2015.

Lusardi reported the boats are in the water and rescue diving drills have taken place at Thunder Bay. Placement of the buoys will begin in the next few days and classroom education outreach will begin to wrap up for the school year.

Clark mentioned moving ahead with the interpretive virtual trail that includes Presque Isle, Alcona and Tawas counties. The plan is to install 60 signs that will identify and interpret various offshore items in those counties. Dan Spegel, Heritage Trail Coordinator, will get involved in water trails in addition to land trails. Clark has been working with Keith Stefke

Michigan Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2015
Page 3 of 3

on a shipwreck collection exhibit for the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC) in Detroit. The OAC is set to open in July 2015.

Bloomfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:01 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Vander Stoep, and was unanimously approved.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Graf", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized.

Tom Graf, Chairperson