

**Michigan Underwater Salvage and Preserve Committee (MUSPC) Meeting Minutes**  
Michigan History Center, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Commission Room  
Wednesday, December 4, 2019

**Committee Members Present:** Chris Antieau, Ron Bloomfield, Joseph Bower, Sandra Clark, Tom Graf, Nathan Murphy,

**Committee Members Via Conference Call:** Stephen Kroll, Wayne Lusardi, Dave Shaw

**Staff:** Sheri Giffin

**Members of the Public and Guests:**

Daniel Friedhoff – Straits of Mackinac Shipwreck Preserve and MUPC

Cindy Krueger – DNR, Marketing & Outreach

Stacy Tchorzynski – State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Weston Hillier – Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE)

Daniel Harrison – Wayne State University

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

**2. Introductions**

Dan Harrison is a retired reference librarian at the Henry Ford College and worked on the maritime St. Claire system.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

No changes offered. Bloomfield moved to approve the agenda, Bower seconded and passed unanimously.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Bloomfield moved to approve the May 15, 2019 and September 11, 2019, meeting minutes as amended; the motion was seconded by Clark and was unanimously adopted.

**5. Introduce New Committee Members**

Joseph Bower is the Director of Development at Michigan Environmental Council. Joe is interested in history and done some diving.

Nathan Murphy is the State Director for Environment Michigan. Nathan has also worked with Michigan's legislature in various capacities.

Stephen Kroll, a retired math teacher from Alpena area, works with Thunder Bay and is an experienced diver.

**6. Public Access Strategy Draft Review**

Hillier began with a review of purpose for the Public Involvement and Recreation Strategy for the newer members of the committee. It was further explained the document is a directional plan for the any organizations and communities to network on common goals. The newer committee members bring an environmental viewpoint that was also offered at the late summer workshop.

Bower inquired about the funding for the committee and initiatives. The legislature has not provided any funding for this committee, however, the committee has partnered with departments such as the Coastal Zone Management team if there is a monetary projects. Other departments such as the newly formed Office of Outdoor Recreation Industry may also be potential project partners. Bowers thought NRTF might also be a good source for funding with water trails and culture work. Murphy suggested the Land and Water Conservation Fund as a federally-funded organization that is also focused on local communities.

Bloomfield highlighted the portion of the strategic plan concerning the community planning as essential to success. There are many opportunities to network within communities and they will be the partners for continuation of the work.

The committee suggested breaking out the technology focus. Groups are embracing technology such as ROV and diver video to gather data and map out bottomland. Thunder Bay and Michigan Tech are managing sites through technology.

After reviewing the introductory pages, Clark suggested the committee review the tasks currently outlined on the document. The goal is to populate these areas with leaders who will monitor the task's progression. Those willing to take on a section will contact Giffin to update the strategic document.

Kroll asked if CMU would be interested in taking a lead on some of the task sections. Bloomfield replied the university will mention the strategic plan at the conference and potential for student involvement. Student interest might gain the most traction, but they will also need guidance with projects such as national register nominations.

Bower offered to work on the goal of making Michigan a shipwreck destination. Bower has background in writing articles for publication and will partner with USPC and Friedhoff for resources and references. Bower is interested in getting articles into a broader audience such as national publications.

## **7. Marketing**

Friedhoff and Anna Boruszewski in DNR marketing to continue to populate the information on the storymap. Friedhoff has been putting information and images on Basecamp for Boruszewski to review. Friedhoff suggested using different coordinates as divers do not GIS coordinates at this time. The website name will be updated to a shorter, more memorable title of "Explore Shipwrecks".

Kroll suggested noting credit for the images and information on the website. Not only as a professional courtesy, but also to encourage others to contribute, open up more resources.

There will be a separate repository area for the information the public submits. The information can be reviewed by the committee before adding to the website.

## **8. Buoy Project**

Friedhoff transported the buoying systems from Keweenaw to Straits State Park. These will be used for the Yosemite and Cleveland in the spring.

Luscardi reported West Michigan and Southwest Preserves put in buoys for the *Comache* and *State of Michigan*. The *Novadoc* and *Minch* has tackle in, but were not buoyed this year.

The committee discussed the goals for buoys in 2020. Bloomfield and Lusardi will put together the buoy list for review. The EGLE permits are due January 20, 2020 and there is a new application process. Clark will work with Graf on the application. Antieau suggested syncing up the Corp of Engineer permits with the EGLE with longer permit durations such as 5-10 years.

## **9. Public Comment**

Tchorzynski reminded the committee about the Michigan Historic Preservation Network conference in the spring. Kevin Hales of the Southwest Preserves will be speaking on buoy project.

Harrison has worked on many projects including a nomination for an 1812 corduroy road and organizations such as Harsens Island Historical Society. Currently he is working on a nomination for the tug Lauren Castle.

Bloomfield announced the CMU conference will be head on Feb 25-27, 2020. The schedule will be available soon, but will be focused on underwater culture. The conference will have various session topics from law enforcement perspectives to shipwreck documentation. There will be a post-conference publication with a summary of the information and discussion. The conference is open to the public.

Hillier referenced an article concerning the Lakebed 2030 Initiative with NOAA. He will pass along the article for those interested.

## **10. Committee Member Reports**

### **New Permit Applications**

No new permit applications received. The P39 will have a new application submitted.

## **11. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no additional business or updates, Clark moved to adjourn, seconded by Bloomfield, at 3:09 pm.



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Sandra S. Clark, Chairperson