

Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserve Committee

Meeting Minutes

Location: Michigan History Center & Virtual meeting

Date: January 31, 2024 @ 1 p.m.

Roll call

Present for the Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee:

- Chris Antieau, Chair
- Ron Bloomfield
- Sandra Clark
- Dan Friedhoff
- Jeremiah Edson
- Wayne Lusardi
- Brian Smith
- Nick Torsky

Others in Attendance:

- Stacy Tchorzynski, DNR Archaeologist
- Cindy Krueger, DNR Communications
- Sheri Giffin, Michigan History Center
- Tony Piazza, Tawas Point

Meeting minutes

Opening Comments:

Antieau called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Smith moved to approve the agenda; Edson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Bloomfield moved to approve the November 28, 2023, minutes; the motion was seconded by Smith and passed.

Goals for 2024:

Buoy Project

Bloomfield reported that the Michigan Underwater Preserve Council (MUPC) discussed submitting buoy requests to Lusardi. The Marquette Preserve is considering placing a buoy on the *Mesquite* in the Keweenaw Preserve. There may be sinker available for a buoy system; however, due to the age of the sinker, its viability is in question. Lusardi and Bloomfield will coordinate on the options for buoy placement. Friedhoff offered tackle and line.

Interpretive Panels

Bloomfield gave an update on the project noting that the class research suggestion is not an option at this time. Funding still remains the project's challenge.

National Register Nominations

Harrison sent a multiple site list to the State Historic Preservation Office; however, he has not received any reply.

Committee Member Reports:

Law Enforcement

Torsky reported that his team is monitoring the sale of artifacts, but there has been little activity.

Lusardi mentioned he was given small Great Lakes shipwreck artifacts that were purchased recently through NOAA.

Friedhoff asked for clarification on shipwreck artifacts donated to museums and other locations. Lusardi noted that it is illegal to remove artifacts from shipwrecks without permits. Museums usually require information about how an artifact came into a person's possession.

New Permit Applications

Antieau noted that there are no new applications.

Public Comment:

Tony Piazza said that he is the Vice President of the Friends of the Tawas Point Lighthouse, President of the Saginaw Underwater Explorers and working with the Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing club.

Friedhoff report from the MUPC meeting that Huron County is considering plans to promote the Thumb Area Preserve. Many of the preserves are hosting water cleanup projects on the Great Lakes as well as inland waters. The Ghost Ships Festival has restarted and will be held on March 1 and 2 in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, upon a motion Antieau adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m.