

Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee

Meeting Minutes

Location: Virtual meeting

Date: September 29, 2021

Roll call

Present for the Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee:

- Chris Antieau
- Joseph Bower
- Ron Bloomfield
- Sandra Clark, chair
- Jeremiah Edson
- Stephen Kroll
- Wayne Lusardi
- Nathan Murphy
- Nick Torsky

Partners to the Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee:

- Dan Friedhoff, representing the Straits of Mackinac Shipwreck Preserve
- Dan Harrison, Wayne State University Maritime Archaeologist
- Weston Hillier, EGLE, Environmental Quality Analyst
- Stacy Tchorzynski, DNR Archaeologist
- Nick Adkins, DNR LED
- Cindy Krueger, DNR
- Sheri Giffin, Executive Secretary for Michigan History Center

Meeting minutes

Opening Comments:

Clark called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Kroll moved to approve the agenda; Murphy seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Bloomfield moved to approve the April 14, 2021 minutes as amended; the motion was seconded by Antieau, and the motion passed unanimously.

Strategy Implementation Priorities:

National Register Nominations

Harrison contacted the tug industry and found there were no new regulations due to *Lauren Castle* wreck. Harrison will continue to review if there were any best practices or less formal changes to help establish the significance of the wreck.

Buoy Project

There were no updates. Currently, it is buoy retrieval season.

Interpretive Panels

Bloomfield and Friedhoff are working on preferred locations, topics and themes, and connecting with some community members. Bloomfield also plans to submit an application for the CZM planning grant, which is due in December. Matt Smar remains a resource.

Pure Michigan

Over the summer, the DNR posted an article on diving and shipwrecks. Krueger will get a report on the number of views of the article. Krueger recommended reviewing the information on the Pure Michigan website. Friedhoff and Bower will review.

Digital Press Kit

Clark, Bower and Krueger are still interested in creating the resource.

Committee Member Reports:

Law Enforcement

DNR LED was pleased to offer resources to help with the recovery of the Tuskegee P39 this year.

LED has an MOU with NOAA for cross-deputization to help with law enforcement specific to the Great Lakes. Jerrod Krueger will have responsibility for all state waters, not just the sanctuaries.

New Permit Applications

Antieau reported there are no new permit requests. Tchorzynski and Lusardi have been communicating with East Carolina University about a permit to preserve the Millecoquin wreck. Antieau will work with his team about the permit.

Comment:

Lusardi gave an overview of the Tuskegee P39 recovery this past August. They brought up more pieces for conservation and updated the extent of the wreck site. The involvement of family members of the pilot made the project particularly inspiring. More work remains to be done.

Hillier announced the opening of the CZM grants that are good opportunities for our goals.

Friedhoff mentioned Ken Merriman's work at 3DShipwrecks.org on Great Lakes shipwrecks. Mr.

Based on his conversation with Merriman concerning adding wrecks to the Coast Guard's AIS system, Friedhoff suggested that electronic buoys might help current ships avoid dropping anchor on shipwrecks. He also mentioned a new video on the *Sandusky*.

The oil concerns on the *Cedarville* have been patched, but there are some slicks in the hull. The temporary fixes should hold unless more divers go in and their air bubbles push out more oil.

The committee discussed ideas for updated training and guidelines for people to review before dives. The information could be encouraged through the preserves, local dive shops, charters and other industry contracts. A sub-committee consisting of Bloomfield, Tchorzynski, Lusardi and Hillier volunteered to review options for such as solution.

New Business:

The Discovery Channel contacted Bloomfield about a new series about paranormal activity surrounding shipwrecks.

Old Business:

The CMU conference report electronic version should be available in January.

Tchorzynski reported on the archaeological survey of the bottomlands for Line 5.

Adjournment:

There being no further business Bloomfield moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Edson, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.



Sandra S. Clark, Chairperson