Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee

Meeting Minutes

Location: Virtual meeting Date: February 15, 2022

Roll call

Present for the Michigan Underwater Salvage & Preserves Committee:

- Chris Antieau, Chair
- Ron Bloomfield
- Sandra Clark
- Jeremiah Edson
- Stephen Kroll
- Wayne Lusardi
- Nick Torsky

Others in Attendance:

- Dan Harrison, Wayne State University Maritime Archaeologist
- Cindy Krueger, DNR
- Tony Piazza,
- Stacy Tchorzynski, DNR Archaeologist
- Sheri Giffin, Executive Secretary for Michigan History Center

Meeting minutes

Opening Comments:

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

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

Bloomfield moved to approve the November 17, 2021, minutes; the motion was seconded by Kroll and passed unanimously.

Wardens Episode

The DNR TV show "Wardens" aired an episode highlighting the archaeological work on the wreck of Lt. Frank L. Moody's P39 Airacobra. Portions of the show were shown to the committee.

Intro to Lt. Frank Moody:

https://vimeo.com/672094111 "Tuskegee Airmen Memorial" https://vimeo.com/672093409

Strategy Implementation Priorities:

Buoy Project

MUPC has not yet requested any new buoys. Bloomfield continues to work with the Keewenaw group to locate the anchor of the John Jacob Astor. Bloomfield will connect with the Fort Wilkins State Park team for possible coordinates for the anchor. The Wasaga might also be an option to buoy this season.

The West Michigan Preserve has proposed *DNR patrol boat #1* for a National Register nomination. The boat was built in Michigan and rests near Grand Haven. Bloomfield will follow up for more information.

Interpretive Panels

Bloomfield and Friedhoff reviewed potential sites for the Straits of Mackinac Preserve. Due to the individual community focus of the Coastal Zone Management grant, Bloomfield advised that the project might benefit from a single larger grant. Central Michigan University may be an interested partner to find a large grant serving multiple communities and creating a project for students. He will continue to review funding options.

Committee Member Reports:

Law Enforcement

Torsky reported his team was investigating leads about internet sales of wreck artifacts. The process is slow as it requires cooperation with other states.

Permits

Antieau received an application for a wreck within Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary; however, applications are for one calendar year, and it was submitted too late for any work to be done in 2021. It was therefore rejected. Antieau expects the application will be resubmitted.

Public Comment:

Kroll reported on the effort to reopen Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. The building remains closed based on continuing national COVID restrictions. Kroll suggested that individuals contact their representatives to urge reopening of the center.

Tony Piazza introduced himself as an active scuba diver interested in maritime archaeology. He has done some bottomland evaluations and work for DNR and EGLE.

Dan Harrison received a copy of Wisconsin's National Register nomination for multiple sites. He will use it as a template for future Michigan nominations. Bloomfield offered to disseminate it to the preserves for review.

Old Business:

MUPC did not discuss a photography etiquette video at its last meeting. Blooomfield will follow up on interest in the project at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business Clark moved to adjourn the meeting; Bloomfield seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Sandra S. Clark, Chairperson

Sandra S. Clark