

**Lower Menominee River Area of Concern
Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
April 17, 2014**

Things written in green denote potential action items.

ATTENDEES

Gail Clark-M&M GLSF, John Clark-M&M GLSF, Mark Erickson-CoChair, Keith West-CoChair, Cheryl Bougie-WDNR, Ben Uvaas-WDNR, Sharon Baker-MDEQ

DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Meeting attendees are kept up-to-date with the current status of the Betterment Action and Menekaunee Harbor projects, they have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss each project
2. Further develop for 2014 CAC based public outreach

MINUTES

- Introductions, Overview of Agenda, Review of Minutes – Mark Erickson and Keith West, CAC Co-Chairs
- Monthly GLLA Betterment Project Update – Cheryl
 - TYCO and agency still working on negotiations, though looks positive. Should hear soon.
 - Critical time frame currently to enable desired outcome within time frame
- City of Grand Haven ship rudder – Keith
 - Wisconsin Historical Society State Archeologist still investigating preservation
 - Time is critical because the longer it is exposed the sooner it will deteriorate
 - Still needs funding
- Monthly Menekaunee Harbor Update – Cheryl
 - Letter of Commitment received committing \$5.1 million for work from GLNPO
 - Developing press release
 - **Cheryl will check to see if media would like to interview Keith and/or Mark for a quote about importance of Menekaunee Harbor to AOC's habitat degradation BUI**
 - Finalizing permits
 - Investigating Lot 24 for non-contaminated dredge spoil disposal
 - Final design plan likely next week with a 2 week comment period
 - CAC-make sure the wetland plants selected can withstand 2-6 ft. inundation
- 2014 CAC Led Community Outreach
 - CAC members generated community outreach ideas for this summer's projects including: Project kickoff event; Flyer development; AOC Website;
 - Kiosk with updates provided (weekly; bi-weekly); Mark to provide 1/8 inch Lexan to cover backside of kiosk where these materials will be placed after the kiosk is moved with Keith's help; paper ok but laminated materials better
 - Other potential locations include: Harbortown; other locations on city land which would need city permissions
 - MDCH "Eat Safe Fish" outreach materials; **Sharon to obtain from Michelle Bruneau and send or bring to next meeting**

Follow up on Habitat Protection – Uvaas

As a follow up from the March CAC meeting, Uvaas reported that he had contacted the City of Marinette to discuss opportunities for the CAC to provide formal comments on the city's Comprehensive Plan. Jon Sbar, City of Marinette Attorney, informed Uvaas that the comprehensive plan had been reviewed in 2009, and would not be reviewed again in the near future. Sbar was then asked to identify another means for the CAC to provide formal comments regarding city zoning and the protection of natural areas in the AOC.

West and Erickson suggested the CAC draft a letter to the Marinette City Council to formalize the CAC's support of zoning ordinances as a means to protect natural areas and meet delisting targets. **Attending members of the CAC agreed, and Baker, West, and Erickson volunteered to draft the letter.** Specific natural areas were then discussed:

- Menekaunee Harbor – Northern half should be rezoned P1 Park if it is acquired by the city. Other parts of the Harbor including the Lake Michigan Shoreline should remain in P1 Park zoning.
- The city owned southern shore of the South Channel should be considered for re-zoning to C1 conservation district.
- Boom Island should also be considered for re-zoning to C1 conservation district.

Baker asked if a similar letter should be sent to the Menominee City Council. Uvaas stated that there are no identified habitat restoration projects in Menominee, MI that to require protection for delisting, although the CAC could seek protections if they choose to. Erickson noted that zoning is very political in Menominee. A number of areas in Menominee, MI were then discussed that could be protected as habitat. Erickson will look into Menominee's Comprehensive Plan review as an opportunity for CAC input.

- Follow up on ACE Maintenance Navigation Channel Dredging scheduled this Fall-Cheryl
 - ACE is in initial Planning stages to do spot dredging in the navigation channel this summer
 - Cheryl prepared a list for the ACE of those industries or interests likely to be impacted by dredge work this summer in conjunction with other contaminated sediment work
- Agency Updates
 - Ben replacement update: Likely late May
 - SPAC Meeting and Workshop in Chicago March 18 & 19 -Keith and Sharon
 - Keith in particular liked the various AOCs sharing their activities
 - SPAC Ishpeming July 14-15
 - Celebrating Deer Lake's AOC Delisting
 - Workshop topics yet to be determined
 - Sharon's workload has increased by another AOC-Muskegon
 - Mark-Will the phragmites treatment take place again this year? **Ben/Sharon/Mark to find Darcy's contact information**
 - **Prepare note to GLNPO to request Mike Bryant's participation at evening meetings** (Issue since resolved)
 - Ben intends to continue to attend.
- Next meeting proposed for May 15, 2014 at 6:30PM

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ONLINE RESOURCES

EPA – <http://www.epa.gov/grtlakes/aoc/menominee/index.html>

MDEQ – http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3313_3677_15430_57388---,00.html

UW-Extension – <http://fyi.uwex.edu/aocs/>

WDNR – <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/menominee.html>

2013 RAP and F&W Plans available

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/documents/Menominee2013RAPUpdate.pdf>

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/greatlakes/documents/Menominee2013FishAndWildlifePlan.pdf>