

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- January 31, 2006 Meeting Minutes-

Date: January 31, 2006

Time: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 W. Fletcher, Alpena, MI

I. Meeting Attendees

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Cathy Green, Russ Green, Pat Labadie, Jean Prevo

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi

SAC Members: Bill Estlack, Don Beem, Kathleen Hubbard, Olin Joynton, Ken Kolasa, Stephen Kroll, Betty Krueger, Deb Pardike, Ed Retherford, Carol Shafto, Karen Tetzlaff, Kim Wallis-Burke

SAC Alternates: Dennis Bodem, David Dekett, Art Gillespie, Vera Kavanaugh, Jerry Meek, John McConnell, Joe Sobczak, Chuck Wiesen

Ex-officio Member: None

Members of the Public: Brian Tippman

Media: Sarah Robinson, The Alpena News, and Mike Markowski, WATZ

Welcome:

Carol welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She introduced the new members:

Karen Tetzlaff - Education

Jerry Meek - Citizen-at-Large - Alternate

Kathleen Hubbard - Maritime History

Chuck Wiesen - Higher Education - Alternate

The new members each gave a brief introduction. Then, Carol asked the rest of the members and staff to introduce themselves.

Carol announced that former SAC member, Paula Thompson, resigned as education alternate. Paula has been in contact with the sanctuary staff and said that she would be retiring from teaching in the spring and felt that it would be more appropriate to have someone else fill the education seat. She also said that she would like to be more involved with the docent/volunteer program.

Carol explained to the new members that we don't treat alternates any differently than regular members and that we encourage them to participate in the meetings. The only time the alternate is not called is during a vote if the full member is there, if the member is not there, then the alternate would vote on behalf of their constituency.

Action Items:

New members and alternates were sworn in and all were reaffirmed.

Volunteer Orientation. There will be a volunteer orientation on February 13 at 6:30pm at the sanctuary. This training is not required for SAC members, but everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

2006 Meeting Dates. A list of 2006 meeting dates was distributed (see attached). The 2006 dates follow our normal bi-monthly meeting schedule, with the only deviations being the March 28th retreat which will be held 3:30-9:00pm and the September 19th meeting.

Retreat Working Group. The 2006 retreat will focus on the sanctuary's Management Plan review. Carol asked for volunteers to be on the retreat planning working group. Volunteers were Vera Kavanaugh, Chuck Wiesen, Kim Wallis-Burke and Dennis Bodem, as well as the new SAC chair.

Approve November 8th Meeting Minutes. Ken Kolasa motioned to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2005 meeting. Betty Krueger seconded the motion, the minutes were passed.

Assign May Constituent Reports. Carol gave a brief explanation of constituent reports for the new members and alternates. She explained that the constituent reports were designed to keep each council seat in contact with their constituency group and to provide feedback to the council and sanctuary staff. There is no template for preparing the report. We usually set aside 5 minutes per report, but if you need more time, please notify Jean or the chair ahead of time and they will schedule more time. Make sure it is clear to the constituent you are asking that the information you are seeking is for you as an individual for your report to the council. Formal surveys are not allowed due to the Federal government's Paperwork Reduction Act, this includes e-mail or electronic surveys. Jeff said we would contact Karen Brubeck the National SAC coordinator regarding the survey regulations.

It was decided that since the retreat is in March, we will not have constituent reports, therefore, the next reports will be given at the May meeting. The constituent reports to be given in May are:

Thunder Bay Underwater Preserve (Frank Rosinski/Joe Sobczak)
Higher Education (Olin Joynton/Chuck Wiesen)
Sanborn Township (Lynda VanDusen)
Alpena Township (Marie Twite)

Chuck Wiesen asked if they could contact members from the other councils to see how they deal with different issues and interact with their constituents. Jean said that was fine and that the 2005 Sanctuary Council Directory was distributed at the previous meeting and she will provide the new members with a copy.

Jeff reminded the SAC members that if they ever have a problem or hear a concern from their constituents to feel free to call Jeff or the staff to notify them of the concern.

Constituent Reports:

Marie Twite was absent, her constituent report will be heard at the May meeting.

Recreation (Don Beem and David Dekett). Don Beem said it would be tough to out do what we've done over the past year (i.e. opening the Maritime Heritage Center) without the staff. He went on to state that the Thunder Bay staff and exhibits are just first class, including the signage used around the building for interpretation and outside around the area for the Cool Cities. He said he enjoyed working on last year's boat raffle, and although the boat was the draw at most of the events, it also spun interest in the sanctuary itself. One of the best spots was the Farmer's Market where he was able to talk to out of town visitors. The most asked question Don has received as the recreation seat is, "Where is the visitors center?" Don is looking forward to the development of the riverfront and the boardwalk behind the visitor center, and interpretive signs that will hopefully come with it.

David Dekett works at the Harrisville State Park. He talked to park users in the spring and asked them if they had heard about the sanctuary and handed out brochures to those that hadn't. He then asked again in the summer and the fall, it was clear that more people were aware of it. David continues to hand out brochures to visitors at the park. David suggested that the sanctuary have a kiosk at state parks to spread sanctuary information. Welcome centers would also be a good venue for displaying information.

NMSP Information on Fisheries. Carol and Jeff both participated in conference calls regarding the National Marine Sanctuaries Act Regulatory Process. (See attached handout - there is a much longer document please contact Jeff or Jean if you would like to look at it.) Since the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve is a cultural heritage preservation site, it has no regulatory authority or regulatory interest in fishing. The State of Michigan manages fishing in Thunder Bay in accordance with their responsibility as owner of the bottomlands of Lake Huron. As part of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, the TBNMS Advisory Council supports efforts for improved coordination and collaboration concerning the promulgation of fighting regulations in the marine sanctuaries that are affected by such regulations.

Motion was made by Joe Sobczak and Seconded by John McConnell and, with a quorum present, passed unanimously on January 31, 2006.

Sanctuary Update:

Jeff handed out the Thunder Bay NMS 2005 Highlights (attached). These highlights will be used in the 2005 State of the Sanctuary Report.

FY06 Budget

Jeff announced that the National Marine Sanctuary Program received a 30% budget reduction and that Thunder Bay received a nearly 17%-20% reduction.

Due to the budget cuts, sites have been using creative planning including: partnerships, grants and volunteers. Some of the examples Jeff gave that Thunder Bay uses are:

- Grant money funding. We work closely with the State and City to seek grant funding.
- GLMHC Exhibits - Senator Levin earmarks
- Working closely on grants for the boardwalk/river development behind the building.
- Looking for grants for telepresence.

Webcam/Data Buoys. Jeff mentioned that Thunder Bay has been putting together a consortium of folks for partnerships and grant planning, which will be focusing on programming and several live dives. Jeff said that he is 99% sure we will be a site that will have broadcasts from Ballard's expedition to the Aegean Sea.

ROV Design and Building Workshop. The ROV building workshop was held on December 2 and 3. Twenty teachers from around the region participated in the workshop, where they learned how to be sponsors and mentors for ROV building teams. This workshop was funded by grant money that Thunder Bay and five other sites received to host these workshops, as well as a regional competition. When the workshop was over, the teachers got to keep the ROV's they constructed. Four teachers that participated in the workshop expressed interest in competing in our regional competition. The regional competition will be held in Alpena on *April 29, 2006*. Please let Cathy know if you or anyone you know might be interested in volunteering to help with the competition.

Environmental Achievements. Jeff spoke about the environmental projects Thunder Bay has been involved in:

- “Closing the Circle” White House Environmental Award Nominations - submitted our application
- Herman Miller LEED's Case Study

If you are interested in learning more about any of these nominations, contact Jeff to see a copy of the application.

Alpena Regional Medical Center/TBNMS - Hyperbaric Chamber. During the September 2005 LT Meeting, sanctuary staff, Dan Basta and the hospital staff had discussions regarding the possibility of a hyperbaric chamber at ARMC. Jeff and ARMC staff continue to look into ways

to defer the costs. The hyperbaric chamber will not only be used for dive accidents, but for burn victims, cancer treatments, etc.

Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program. The boat building program is building a cedar strip canoe to be raffled off to raise money for the sanctuary's outreach and education initiatives. We are going to need someone to help organize the boat raffle. Betty thought that it might be beneficial to have a group of people to find venues, handle the scheduling and transport the canoe to the raffle locations, man the event, etc.

TBNMS Internships. Thunder bay is hoping to have two University of Michigan interns this year, as well as one from the NOAA program and possibly some other unpaid interns.

2006 Archaeological Field Schools. This summers list of field school possible participants are Alpena Community College, Michigan State University, University of Michigan, University of Rhode Island, St. Mary's University of California, East Carolina University and the PAST Foundation.

A few of the other agencies that TBNMS has used and/or will be using for field assistance and research are NOAA's Maritime Heritage Program, NOAA's Navigation Response Branch, NOAA's Hydrographic Service, NOAA Dive Center, NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, the National Undersea Research Center, etc.

Chair Election. Carol asked if anyone was interested in being the chair. She stated that if several people are interested we will have a secret ballot vote. Steve Kroll was the only one that volunteered to take over the chair position. He stated that after careful consideration and communications with different people he thought he would like to take on the responsibility. No one else came forward.

Motion was made by Olin Joynton and seconded by Bill Estlack and, with a quorum present, Steve Kroll was elected the Sanctuary Advisory Council chair on January 31, 2006.

Presentation: Carol Shafto was honored for her years of service as the SAC chair. Dan Basta and Dr. Robert Ballard called into the meeting to thank Carol for her years of service as Thunder Bay's SAC chair and for all of her hard work and dedication. Council vice-chair Ed Retherford presented a plaque to Carol.

Public Comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Action Items:

Sanctuary staff will get official guidance from the national program regarding the constituent report survey issue and will e-mail it out.

Sanctuary staff will draft and mail meeting minutes to council members.

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- May 9, 2006 Meeting Minutes-

Date: May 9, 2006

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 W. Fletcher, Alpena, MI

I. Meeting Attendees

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Cathy Green, Russ Green, Pat Labadie, Jean Prevo

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi

SAC Members: Don Beem, Bill Estlack, Kathleen Hubbard, Olin Joynton, Stephen Kroll, Ed Retherford, Carol Shafto, Joe Sobczak, Karen Tetzlaff, Marie Twite, Lynda VanDusen, Kim Wallis-Burke

SAC Alternates: Dennis Bodem, Kenneth Gauthier, Vera Kavanaugh, Mike Lakin, John McConnell, Jerry Meek, Chuck Wiesen

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: John Jensen, Beth Dykstra - University of Michigan

Media: Sarah Robinson - The Alpena News, Mike Markowski - WATZ

WELCOME AND ACTION ITEMS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Approve January 31st Meeting Minutes. Lynda VanDusen motioned to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2006, meeting. Marie Twite seconded the motion, the minutes were passed.

Assign July Constituent Reports. At the July 11th meeting, constituent reports will be given by:

Tourism (Deb Pardike/Dennis Bodem)
Fishing (Ed Retherford/Art Gillespie)
Diving (Stephen Kroll/John McConnell)

SIXTH ANNUAL SAC CHAIRS & COORDINATORS MEETING:

Steve went over his memo regarding the 2006 SAC Chairs & Coordinators meeting (see attached). If anyone is interested in the full notes from the National Marine Sanctuary Program, ask Jean and she will get you a copy.

State of the Sanctuaries. Dan Basta, Director of the National Marine Sanctuary Program, gave a welcome speech at the meeting. During his talk, Dan said not to worry about the budget, dream your dreams and don't worry about the money. Dan mentioned that President Bush is taking ownership of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Corel Reef Ecosystem Reserve using it as a legacy similar to Roosevelt. Therefore, there might be more money allocated to the sanctuary program. Dan also stated that sanctuaries aren't just about preserving, they are about educating the public on how to effectively use them.

Outreach Planning. It was mentioned that by contacting local representatives you can accomplish a lot. Letters do get read and those things are important. As a council member, you cannot "lobby," you can only do that as a private citizen. Budget decisions are made in February and March.

National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The Foundation was granted \$3 million to use for grants. These grants are not just limited sanctuaries, can also be used to fund outside organizations. Steve said that we might want to think about it for the ROV program. Steve also asked the Foundation if it is possible to get grants for projects that we currently have ongoing and then use the money that was originally allocated for these programs for something else. Lori Arguelles of the Foundations said that was absolutely okay.

Lori Arguelles talked about becoming a member the Foundation. When donors send in money to become a member of the Foundation, it is a 50-50 split with the site. TBNMS has the most donations so far. Steve thought it would be a good idea to explore a way to establish our own local foundation in order to keep the money here.

Dennis Bodem asked if there is a tax benefit if you donate to the Foundation. The answer to that question is, yes, they are a non-profit 501c3.

Carol mentioned that if you donate now, you become a "charter member" no matter how much money you donate, there isn't a minimum amount.

Jeff talked about Betty's idea of starting a charter foundation or a "friends group" here at Thunder Bay. Jeff has discussed this with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and a member of their staff is planning to come to Thunder Bay to discuss the possibilities. Jeff has also been in communication with other sanctuary managers that have their own separate foundations to find out their thoughts on this issue.

Jeff asked for volunteers to establish a committee to discuss local foundation options. Volunteers for the committee were Chuck Weisen, Dennis Bodem and Carol Shafto. Jeff suggested the volunteers get together at the break to discuss a good time to meet.

Reauthorization. A few of the laws have changed since the Sanctuary program was originally established. Some of the changes are in law enforcement, now people would be liable for causing a loss to the resource. They could be arrested for stealing an artifact, but if they damaged the

wreck they could also be liable for the damages caused to the site.

Maritime Heritage Activities. A presentation was made at the meeting in DC, by John Broadwater regarding the NMSP maritime heritage program. He talked about numerous cultural resource projects including inventory assessments of wrecks and prehistoric sites on the west coast.

University of Michigan Masters Presentation. Two questions – “What have been the range of Sanctuary Advisory Council experiences?” and “What insights can be gained from the councils experiences?” The students found that the councils do work because people are involved and feel effective.

Steve stated that council members should never be afraid to express their interests during these meetings. Every council member represents a different group with different interests. These different opinions and interests are what make the councils work.

Jeff mentioned that Ellen Brody was working with these students, and we have requested one of the students or Ellen come and present the survey results at a meeting.

Fishing Regulations. This wasn't anything that concerned us because our regulations are for cultural resources only and the State of Michigan is responsible for managing our fishing regulations. Steve mentioned he was impressed with the way the discussion process worked at the national meeting. It started out quite heated and by the end of the discussion there was a plan in place.

Oil & Gas and Alternative Energies. Dan Basta thought we should allow some alternative energies into the sanctuaries. He mentioned Thunder Bay's initiatives with the bio-diesel boats and also talked about wave action energy research.

Acoustics. It was determined that yes acoustics generated by vessels do affect mammals, some tracking has been done and are in the process of putting it all together. This area will continue to be researched.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS:

Alpena Township - Marie Twite. Marie Twite mentioned she spoke to the front desk staff at her office and asked if they have had received any inquiries regarding the sanctuary. They had not received any inquiries. Marie has been trying to spread the word by bringing visitors to the sanctuary.

Thunder Bay Underwater Preserve Committee - Joe Sobczak. Joe gave a presentation regarding the Thunder Bay Underwater Preserve Committee's (TBUPC) current and past projects.

TBUPC 1982- Present

- TBUPC originally marketed area, aquired the buoy permits, buoyed wrecks, aintained

moorings and pushed for NMS status.

- Now primarily a marketing organization looking to make divers visits to be memorable and enjoyable and to leave them wanting to come back.
- TBUPC is used as our voice on the Michigan Underwater Preserve Committee.

Marketing

2002 produced an 11x17 color handout
2004 webpage (www.divealpena.com)
8x3 dive card pointing to website
NO charges for listing TBNMS events
Want more info from the public

Dive Shows

Attended Northeast Michigan Sportsman Show (Alpena)
Possibly attending Columbus, Duluth and Dema
Trying to coordinate dive show attendance with NOAA so we don't duplicate efforts

Michigan Underwater Preserve Committee booklet

Artwork for map and listings for shipwrecks submitted
Focused on showing our sheer quantity and variety of wrecks (shallow and deep)
Some preserves only have a handful of wrecks

Marker Buoy Permits (not intended for mooring)

Applied for and received 3 U.S. Coast Guard permits for the following wrecks:
City of Alpena
Venus
Rock Port Springs
Have chain and buoys ready to be placed (attached to boulders, not wrecks)

Michigan Underwater Preserve Committee

TBUPC has voting member with two votes
Webpage - online now (<http://www.mupc.net>)
Booklet - should be at publishers and distributed this June

Alternate Dive Sites (for bad weather days)

Currently accessible
Thunder Bay River (need formal take outs)
Thunder Bay shore dives (2 possible)
Rock Port
Possibly Accessible
Thompson Harbor
Rock Port Springs
Paxton Quarry

Misery Bay Sink Hole (2 possible)
Rock Port Sink Holes (12 possible)
The Narrow Sink Hole (dangerous)

Higher Education - Olin Joynton. Olin Joynton talked about the joint projects that TBNMS and Alpena Community College are involved in (see attached handouts).

Set Sail - Summer Day Camp - June 19-23. Kids will be spending mornings at the Sanctuary and afternoons at ACC and then the last day they will go out on the Pride of Michigan.

Education Talent Search - This program is designed to encourage junior high and high school students to take their education seriously.

Underwater Archaeology Course - Would like to fill up the course. Please help to promote the course and encourage college students that are home for the summer to sign up. If there are any open spots left, they can possibly be filled by auditors. Contact Olin for more information.

Olin said that ACC is hoping to repeat these projects next year and possibly expand. These classes will be held during the daytime.

It was asked if they are looking for volunteers from the SAC for the Set Sail program? Yes, if you are interested contact Cathy.

It was mentioned that Wayne Lusardi will be working on some terrestrial sites with the regular archaeology course for ACC. If anyone is interested please contact Wayne. It was also noted that the general archaeology course is not a prerequisite for the underwater course.

Right now a diving certification is not required, but it might be added as a requirement in the next few years.

Sanborn Township - Lynda VanDusen. Lynda said that she hasn't received any negative comments. The extra events and functions being held at the GLMHC are promoting the sanctuary. She did mention that camping season is just around the corner and asked if there could be a box of brochures at the State Park in Ossineke? Jeff said we could do that and that we would be in contact with her.

SANCTUARY UPDATE:

During the SAC coffee last month we discussed the digitization project and boat building and decided to put these on the agenda for today's meeting. Therefore, after public comment, the meeting will move over to the Buick Building and then to Alpena County Library to view these projects.

TBNMS Volunteer of the Year. Jeff announced that Jerry Meek was named TBNMS's 2006 volunteer of the year. As part of the nomination volunteers are invited to Washington, DC, to

attend the awards dinner being held during Capitol Hill Ocean's Week. Jerry declined his invitation and asked that the money that would've been used to send him be put into the boat building program. Jeff said we are working on setting up the green building next to the GLMHC as the boat building shed.

Management Plan Review (MPR). We are in the process of hiring someone as the MPR coordinator. Last week there were some staff here from HQ working on an environmental assessment to prepare for the MPR. Jeff and Steve Kroll met today and talked about what we need to do to get back on schedule. Jeff said that by June 1 we will have a solid timeline and will have a date set for the scoping meetings. The first step is completing our five-year State of the Sanctuary report, once that is complete we can move on.

Outreach Events. Cathy gave a presentation on the recent education and outreach events that the Sanctuary staff has been involved in.

MATE ROV Building Competition. Great Lakes Regional, held on April 29, 2006, sponsored by TBNMS. Three teams participated in the competition. Kids and staff really enjoyed the event and it was a great learning experience for all of the teams. Cathy thanked everyone that helped. Alpena took first place (they have competed 5 times in the national competition), TC Central was second, and Monroe was third place. The first place team goes to Texas to compete in the national ROV competition, and they receive \$500 from TBNMS and \$1,000 from MATE.

Cathy outlined a week of outreach May 1-8:

- May 1, Alpena Rotary Presentation
- May 2, Volunteer Training
- May 3, NE Michigan High School Juried Art Show
- May 3, Presentation for Dept. of Family Services
- May 3, Joy Fellowship Group Presentation
- May 4, AMA-ESD Student Film Fest - night 1
- May 4, NE Michigan Library Cooperative Presentation
- May 5, Ella White Elementary Presentation (4th grade)
- May 5, Ocqueoc River Watershed Days Presentation
- May 5, U of M Road Scholar Program (telepresence)
- May 6, AMA-ESD Student Film Fest - day 2
- May 6, NOAA National Weather Service Open House
- May 6, ACC Faculty Appreciation Dinner at GLMHC
- May 8, AMA-ESD Student Film Fest - night 3

= 970 people reached in one week!

Great Lakes Tall Ships 2006 - Friday, May 12, 2006, 7:00pm, open to the public. Thad Koza photographer will be giving a presentation that focuses on the tall ships that will be on the Great Lakes this summer. The American Sail Training Association (ASTA) has a race every year which alternates between the East Coast, West Coast and the Great Lakes. This year it will be

on the Great Lakes and the closest scheduled stop for the ships is Bay City. TBNMS has sent out an invitation to all of the ASTA members inviting them to stop in Alpena. We are offering them free tie up, use of our facilities, etc. Hoping this will generate some tall ship stops here.

TBNMS Educational Initiatives:

Elementary:

Summer Reading Program w/Alpena County Library, June 20-August

Secondary:

“Set Sail” Summer Day Camp

ACC Educational Talent Search Program, June 19-23

College:

Northwood University Express Course (Cathy will be teaching this course)

HIS385 Maritime History, July 28-30,2006

All Ages:

Telepresence & Immersion Programming

Live broadcasts from the following locations - open to the public:

Monitor, Aegean Sea (Bob Ballard Expedition), Stellwagen

June-August

Telepresence. Last week the University of Michigan Road Scholars visited the Sanctuary. The Road Scholars are a group of professors from U of M that travel around Michigan, visiting different locations. They have never come to Northeast Michigan before and were encouraged by Senator Levin to come here. They were impressed by the Sanctuary and enjoyed their visit. Jeff mentioned that two of the people signed up for the family boat building program. Jeff felt that it was a very good outreach event.

WebCam/Met Station. The webcam/met station is back up and working. There is a link on our website (www.thunderbay.noaa.gov).

NOAA’s National Geodetic Survey - Remote Sensing Division. In early June, two of NOAA’s planes will be in Alpena doing some remote sensing using LIDAR (Light Detection & Ranging). LIDAR is a sensor, similar to radar, that transmits laser pulses to a target and records the time it takes for the pulse to return to the sensor receiver. This technology is used for high-resolution mapping by mounting a LIDAR sensor to the aircraft and measuring the pulse return rate to determine surface elevations. This is the first time NOAA has used this type of sensing to specifically look for shipwrecks.

Shoreline Photo Mosaics. Cessna Citation II (CE-550).

Products from this:

Archaeological Inventory

Shoreline Data
Interpretive Materials
Media/Outreach Events

K-12 Education (Cathy talked to them about possibly getting some teacher in the air - Teacher in Flight).

Mooring Buoys. TBNMS staff put in three mooring buoys today and will continue installing them throughout the next few weeks.

Alpena Regional Medical Center/TBNMS. TBNMS staff continue to work with Alpena Regional Medical Center to obtain a hyperbaric chamber. Recently, Jeff traveled with ARMC staff members to look at a hyperbaric chamber currently being used at a hospital in Grand Rapids.

Law Enforcement. Jeff mentioned that law enforcement is a big issue for all of the sanctuaries. Three weeks ago TBNMS held a law enforcement summit. Two NOAA law enforcement agents, four DNR officers and five U.S. Coast Guard representatives attended. Jeff said that half of the day was spent discussing how the various agencies can work together. The Coast Guard has already been working on establishing their own law enforcement capabilities in Alpena.

Next week Jeff will be one of the instructors at a submerged cultural resources law enforcement workshop that is being held in Florida. Two local DNR officers and one Coast Guard representative will be attending the week-long workshop. Jeff is hoping that TBNMS will make giant gains in law enforcement this summer.

GLMHC Exhibits. Thunder Bay staff continue their exhibit planning efforts. John Jensen from Mystic Aquarium has been here this week helping us prepare the request for proposals. Jeff mentioned that we hope to have the request for proposals released some time in June and the contract awarded in July.

TBNMS continues to supplement the exhibits here. Science on the Sphere will be installed in the GLMHC this summer. TBNMS received a grant to help fund the \$200K exhibit. Jeff mentioned that there are only eight of these spheres in the country and that even the Smithsonian is on a waiting list until 2008. The goal is to have Science on the Sphere up and running by Maritime Fest on July 4. This is incredible for students in Alpena and around the Michigan as we will be the only one in the state, the closest one is in Minnesota. NOAA is interested in us working with Nauticus to develop some historic data sets to be projected onto the spheres. Science on the Sphere will be a permanent exhibit in the GLMHC.

Public Comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned to the Buick Building to look at the boat building project and the Alpena County Library to view the digitization project at 8:15 p.m.

Action Items:

Sanctuary staff will draft and mail meeting minutes to council members.

Sanctuary staff will contact Lynda VanDusen regarding brochures for Ossineke campground.

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- July 11, 2006 Meeting Minutes-

Date: July 11, 2006

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 W. Fletcher, Alpena, MI

MEETING ATTENDEES

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Cathy Green, Russ Green, Pat Labadie, Allison Melicharek, Jean Prevo, Tera Panknin

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi

SAC Members: Don Beem, Bill Estlack, Steve Kroll, Karen Tetzlaff, Olin Joynton, Deb Pardike, Carol Shafto, Joseph Sobczak, Lynda VanDusen

SAC Alternates: Dennis Bodem, Vera Kavanaugh, Mike Lakin, John McConnell, Art Gillespie, Chuck Weisen

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: None.

Media: April Alhgren, WATZ

WELCOME AND ACTION ITEMS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Steve introduced Mike Lakin, the new alternate for the Underwater Preserve Committee's seat.

Jeff Gray introduced Tera Panknin who will be working for Thunder Bay NMS as the management plan review coordinator.

Approve May 9th Meeting Minutes. Dennis Bodem motioned to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2006 meeting. John McConnell seconded the motion, the minutes were passed.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS:

Tourism - Deb Pardike and Dennis Bodem (see attached handout.) Deb and Dennis worked jointly on preparing their report. In order to complete their report, they picked a variety of businesses that deal with tourism and repeated some of the questions they had asked two years ago to see if the responses had changed. Deb gave a brief overview of the attached handout. The majority of the business representatives that were asked, did know about the sanctuary and the responses were positive. One suggestion that was offered was to be open one night a week. Deb also noted that businesses mentioned there is an interest in visitors to the area looking to buy

nautical items.

Dennis added that he was glad to know that the brochures are getting out into the hands of tourists.

Sanctuary staff are working on distributing more of the rack cards listing directions and hours for the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center (GLMHC).

Jeff said that the sanctuary realizes signage is still a big issue and it is being worked on. The sanctuary has put up temporary banners at the entrances and one over at the Federal Building directing people to our new location. Comments were made about the good signage put out for the Maritime Festival.

Jeff also pointed out that in Deb's report it was noted that the researchers visiting the sanctuary have been noticed by the tourism industry.

Olin asked if there have been any complaints about the living quarters taking business from any of the hotels. Deb and Dennis said they had not received any specific complaints.

Fishing - Ed Retherford. Ed was not present at the meeting, his report will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

Diving - Steve Kroll/John McConnell (see attached handout.) Steve sent out an e-mail and asked for input from his diving constituents. He received comments on buoys, law enforcement and wreck location. There were also some concerns regarding safety issues with the buoys and some suggestions for changes to the design were offered.

Deb asked what the penalty is if people are caught stealing artifacts from a wreck. Steve said that the penalties are pretty serious, depending on if they are convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor. Wayne said it depends on a lot of different factors and mentioned a recent incident where a timber was taken from a shipwreck in Cheboygan. The person was fined, his boat was taken, along with his dive gear and anything else that was used in the criminal act. Joe Sobczak suggested that it might be a good idea to publicize what can happen if people do take artifacts off of a shipwreck.

Jeff feels that there is more enforcement in the sanctuary, Coast Guard has law enforcement capabilities, DNR is starting additional patrols this summer. Two DNR officers attended the workshop on cultural resource law enforcement that Jeff presented at in Florida.

Steve reiterated that law enforcement was a main issue that was discussed at the SAC Chairs' annual meeting and is an issue within all of the sanctuaries. John McConnell mentioned that it is an educational issue and that boaters should know that if they see something suspicious they should report it. Steve thought we should mention enforcement and penalties in our brochures and literature that we hand out.

Joe suggested the idea of a voluntary registration for divers. For example, they would call in with their boat number and how many people are in their party. Then if something comes up missing later, you can go back and talk to these people and see if items were on the site when

they were there and at least get an idea of when the items were taken. Deb said that having divers register would also help get an idea of how many people are coming to the area to dive from a tourism standpoint.

Jeff said that all of these suggestions would be great to be included during the management plan review scoping period.

Steve mentioned that there is a need for something short and informative to hand to divers.

Alpena County - Bill Estlack (see attached handout.) Bill found that one issue that was brought up by many was the lack of signage. He suggested that Jeff talk to Jeff Thayer.

Bill talked to participants in the July 4th Parade and they were happy with ending the parade on Fletcher Street. Many of them stated that it was easier to load up and get out of town, than it was when the parade ended at City Hall.

MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE:

Jeff distributed the proposed management plan review (MPR) schedule (see attached). This schedule is only a draft at this point because it has only been discussed with the MPR team at headquarters and still needs to be cleared with the State of Michigan. Jeff mentioned that we were not able to meet with the entire working group, but he would like to meet with them to go through this in more detail.

In August, there will be an MPR training session for the SAC. Jeff proposed that this take the place of the August coffee. The following day a group will head to Lansing for a closed meeting with the state agencies.

September 11 is the estimated date for the State of the Sanctuary Report to be available for distribution in hard copy and digitally. The report is what kicks off the public comment process and then one week later the scoping will begin (week of September 24).

One comment we had received during our five-year review was that we focus too much locally and we need to reach out further around the state, therefore, John Halsey from HAL suggested doing a scoping meeting and getting input during the Association for Great Lakes Maritime Heritage (AGLMH) meeting on September 24.

We would like to hold scoping meetings in Alcona, Presque Isle, and Alpena Counties. Tera will let you know when the dates, times and meeting locations are decided. The meetings are open to participants for any county, not just the county residents. Jeff encouraged SAC members to participate in other counties. The final scoping meeting will be held in Lansing.

It was proposed that the September SAC meeting be canceled and replaced with the scoping meeting that will be held on September 25. Carol suggested not having Alpena on September 25, because Alpena City Council, Alpena Township, and other elected officials have their meetings that day. Jeff said we could try to switch Alpena to September 26. Carol rescinded

her comment and said that there was not a meeting on the 25th and the original date could work. Tera will figure out the logistics and send a final list of dates and times to the SAC.

The SAC meeting in November was originally scheduled for November 14, Jeff proposed we change it to November 8, which is a Wednesday, in order to not compete with election day which is on the 7th. It was agreed that the meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8 at 6:30pm.

Although there are only four public meetings, we will be accepting written public comments for one month. Once all of the comments are collected, sanctuary staff will compile the comments and the MPR working group will go through them. The SAC will review and prioritize the comments at the November 8 meeting.

The scoping and MPR process is all done through the staff and SAC. Steve mentioned that this is where the council gets to do some brainstorming. It is the council's chance to really come up with some ideas and be involved in the management planning. During the MPR process different working groups will be formed (i.e. education and outreach, mooring buoys, etc.) Jeff said that when working groups are formed we can have outside parties on those groups as well as council members. It helps to have people from different areas of expertise during this process.

SANCTUARY UPDATE:

2006 Maritime Festival. Through conversations with the entertainers at the festival, Jeff estimates that we had between 8,000 and 10,000 visitors. The flow of visitors was steady throughout the entire day. There were lots of activities and entertainment. The festival featured maritime themed entertainment throughout the day, including music, story telling, and cooking workshops. Activities for kids included toy boat building, face painting, rope making, sail demonstrations, and many other maritime/Great Lakes related games and activities. We again utilized our dive tank for scuba and ROV demonstrations. Visitors were able to take the controls of both the sanctuary's ROV and Alpena High School team's ROV that had just returned from performing very well in the MATE international competition. Visitors also could interact with divers in the pool and try on scuba gear.

The Thunder Bay Community Boat Building Program, now in its 4th year, had four families build prams over the weekend. Two of the family teams were made up of three generations of family members. The three-day family program continues to grow in popularity. In addition to the Family Boat Building Weekend, the boat building team is constructing two cedar-strip canoes that will be raffled off in the future to raise money for the program. To date, this group has generated over 1,200 volunteer hours.

Inside the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center visitors packed into our exhibit space that had been recently modified to include new artifacts, models, and an exhibit put together by Marine Sanctuaries Media. Throughout the day standing-room-only audiences watched Tragedies In the Mist and the History Channel's Deep Sea Detectives episode on Thunder Bay.

The highlight of the day was the opening of NOAA's Science on a Sphere (SOS) exhibit. SOS is a large visualization system that uses computers and video projectors to display animated data

onto the outside of a sphere developed by NOAA's Forecast Systems Laboratory. Said another way, SOS is a globe that can show dynamic, animated images of the atmosphere, oceans, and land of a planet. SOS is an amazing education and outreach tool that describes global environmental processes. Wilfred von Dauster from the Forecast Systems Laboratory provided programming on the SOS throughout the day.

Jeff thanked everyone for helping out. He mentioned that the sponsorship was a little disappointing from past years and we are hoping it will be easier to get more sponsors next year given this year's success.

MATE ROV Building Competition. The Alpena High School team did really well this year at the ROV Competition held in Texas, it was their best year so far. Cathy said that they haven't received their final results yet, but they think they finished near or at the bottom of the top 10 teams. The team is looking forward to participating in next year's competition which will be held in St. John's New Foundland.

Thunder Bay Boat Building. Russ mentioned that the program is going great. Volunteers have put in 1200 hours and are taking a break until September. The volunteers are working on building two cedar strip canoes to raffle off. We will begin selling tickets in the next month or so for one of the canoes and the drawing will be held at next year's Maritime Festival.

Four prams were built at this year's Maritime Festival. Russ said it was really neat because some of the families had three generations working together. Families had good comments regarding the volunteers. Russ also stated that we are one of the only family boat building programs that provides tools for the families to use.

Russ said another idea they are tossing around is having an essay contest for a family to win a kit to build.

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center Update. For the summer, the GLMHC will be open on Sundays from 11:00-4:00. Jeff mentioned that we have been getting around 100 visitors per day.

The GLMHC received the "*Do You have the Power Award*" for saving power and energy. It is the second power and energy award we have received, the first one was for our petroleum free research vessel the *Huron Explorer*. Once the building has operated for a year TBNMS can apply for some more prestigious awards.

Education & Outreach. From May 11 to July 11, the GLMHC has had over 2,640 visitors for special events, education and outreach programs and presentations (not including Maritime Festival)

School programs: 14 programs -500 students

Public programs & meetings: 21 programs - 700 people

Telepresence & distance learning broadcasts: 16 broadcasts - 500 people

ACC Day Camp (morning sessions): 5 days - 40 students

Library Summer Reading Program: 7 events - 900 students

Intern Ashley Deming and volunteer Chuck Wiesen have been helping out with the group tours and programs.

We received good comments from the parents of the students that participated in ACC day camp. Olin mentioned he met with Dan Basta when he was in DC and gave him some of the work the students had produced during the day camp.

TBNMS partnered with the Alpena County Library for their Summer Reading Program. Half of the events were held here in the building and were associated with us in some way.

There will be two more telepresence broadcasts coming up, one this Saturday, July 15, and one next Wednesday, July 19.

GLMHC Exhibits:

The *Isaac Scott* model has been put out in the main exhibit area.

The Request for Proposal for the exhibit design and fabrication has gone out and we will be receiving proposal from different exhibit firms from around the country.

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail/Fletcher Street Improvements:

Russ gave an update on the construction on Fletcher street and the river walk. Construction on Fletcher Street will begin next week and continue until November. The Department of Transportation received a grant for the riverwalk behind the GLMHC. TBNMS will contribute 12 or 15 historic markers with information regarding the river, shipwrecks, Alpena history, etc. The name of the trail is called the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail in the hope that it will become regional.

Thunder Bay Sanctuary Research Collection (TBSRC): Pat Labadie gave an update on the progress of the digitization of the TBSRC:

1400 volunteer hours
\$234K digitization grant underway
climate database modernization program 26,000
images \$25k +
Preserve America Grant

Volunteer Appreciation Night. TBNMS is working on hosting a volunteer appreciation night as a way to not only thank our volunteers, but as a chance to bring them all together. We have so many different volunteer groups (boat builders, library, SAC, etc.) that we would like them to have a chance to interact with each other and the staff. No date has been set, but it will be sometime after August.

Research & Monitoring.

Wayne Lusardi gave an update on the different field projects that sanctuary staff have been working on.

Wayne recently helped ACC professor Richard Clute with a terrestrial archaeology class during which the class conducted a survey of Mill Island. Wayne is still working on the final report.

Wayne has also worked with a University of Michigan archaeology class that did a survey of the *Joseph Fay* in Presque Isle. They recorded 130 feet of wreckage on the beach, with the remainder of the wreck just off shore. Wayne said it was a brilliant shore dive, good spot to snorkel or kayak, it is in less than 14 feet of water and is close to the parking area. The U of M students are still working on their final report.

The University of Rhode Island will be returning again this year in August for their field school.

At the end of August, Wayne and Russ will be working with the Maritime Heritage Program to document the *Flint, Montana* and possibly the *EB Allen*. The program will be sending archaeologists here to help with the surveys.

LIDAR (light detection and ranging). In June, NOAA had a plane here that was conducting a LIDAR survey of the sanctuary shoreline. This research and monitoring will help identify the shoreline features. During the LIDAR scans, Wayne located 8 wreck sites between Greenbush and Rogers City just from visual observations from the plane's window.

Another NOAA plane was here to do photomosaics of the shoreline, but the flights were canceled due to weather and bad visibility. They will try to come back at a later date.

Law Enforcement. In May, Jeff attended and presented at a cultural resource law enforcement workshop. The sanctuary program found funding to send two area DNR officers, a Coast Guard officer and a NOAA enforcement officer to the training. Jeff said the raining was remarkable.

Hyberbaric Chamber. Sanctuary staff continue to work with Alpena Regional Medical Center to get a hyperbaric chamber at the hospital.

Northwest Hawaiian Islands National Monument Designation. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands were recently designated by President Bush to become a National Monument. This designation made it possible to give the area immediate protection, instead of waiting for the sanctuary process to be finalized. The NWHI will still be managed under the National Marine Sanctuary Program and NOAA.

Carol Shafto mentioned that she has contacted the NWHI SAC chair via e-mail to offer her congratulations. Carol proposed that the council pass a resolution to congratulate and welcome the NWHI into the sanctuary program. The following resolution was recommended:

The Thunder Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council congratulates the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands on designation as a National Monument and welcomes you to

the family of sanctuaries across the United States. We offer our support, assistance and best wishes to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Sanctuary Advisory Council and staff.

Carol motioned to pass the resolution. Joe Sobczak seconded the motion, and the resolution was passed unanimously.

Public Comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Cathy Green gave a demonstration of Science on the Sphere.

Action Items:

Sanctuary staff will draft and mail meeting minutes to council members.

Jean will finalize the resolution to NWHI, have Steve Kroll sign it as the chair and mail it to the NWHI council coordinator.

Tera will send out the schedule for the management plan review meetings.

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- November 8, 2006 Meeting Minutes-

Date: November 8, 2006

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Location: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 W. Fletcher, Alpena, MI

MEETING ATTENDEES

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Russ Green, Allison Melicharek, Tera Panknin, Jean Prevo, Ashley Deming

State of Michigan: John Halsey

SAC Members: Don Beem, Bill Estlack, Kathleen Hubbard, Steve Kroll, Olin Joynton, Jerry Meek, Ed Retherford, Carol Shafto, Kim Wallis-Burke

SAC Alternates: Dennis Bodem, David Dekett, Brenda Fournier, Ken Gauthier, Vera Kavanaugh, Mike Lakin, John McConnell, Chuck Wiesen

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: None.

Media: Mike Markowski, WATZ and Patty Ramus, The Alpena News

WELCOME AND ACTION ITEMS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Jeff introduced the new Township of Alpena alternate Brenda Fournier.

Approve July 11th Meeting Minutes. Dennis Bodem motioned to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2006 meeting. Chuck Wiesen seconded the motion, the minutes were passed.

2007 Meeting Date Schedule. A draft of the 2007 meeting schedule was distributed and Jeff Gray proposed to change the meetings from the second week of the month to the fourth week of the month. This idea was discussed and it was decided that the fourth Tuesdays would not work, but the third Tuesday of the month should work. Jean Prevo will look at the calendar and send out a revised schedule.

SANCTUARY UPDATE:

Boat Building. The boat building program is currently building two canoes to raffle off. The first canoe will be raffled off at the 2007 Maritime Festival on July 4th. Russ Green and Allison Melicharek asked that each member sell 50 tickets, the tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. A \$50 Sanctuary Store gift certificate will be awarded to the SAC member who sells their raffle tickets first and gets their money back to Allison. Please see Allison to get your raffle tickets.

The boat building program is still working on finding a permanent home. It is planned that the money from the canoe raffle will go towards a permanent location. The committee is looking for an oversized heated garage to keep working on building the canoes through the winter. If you have an area that would work for this activity please contact Russ Green.

2006 RESEARCH AND MONITORING.

Thunder Bay Sanctuary Research Collection (TBSRC). The digitization of the TBSRC is moving along quickly. Russ mentioned that the library has also received another digitization grant for pictures from the Ken Thro collection. The sanctuary continues receiving research and images from other collectors and has been in contact with other collectors that are also thinking about donating research collections to the sanctuary.

GLMHC Winter Hours. The winter hours for the exhibits and sanctuary store are Monday through Saturday, 10am-4pm. The store hours may change, we will keep you updated.

“You Have the Power Award.” Thunder Bay NMS received NOAA’s “*You Have the Power Award*” for the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center and its LEED certification this year. Jeff also mentioned that we received the award last year for the sanctuary’s 41' bio-diesel research vessel.

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail/Fletcher Street Improvements. Construction crews are currently working on the waterfront behind the building and have made amazing progress. The GLMH Trail and the Fletcher Street improvements will change the property tremendously. The approximate completion date for the trail is May/June 2007. Jeff mentioned that we have been thinking about having the grand opening of the trail in conjunction with the 2007 Maritime Festival.

Hyperbaric Chamber. The sanctuary continues to work on a partnership with Alpena Regional Medical Center to purchase and maintain a hyperbaric chamber at the hospital. The goal is to have the chamber here for the 2008 dive season.

Mooring Buoys. Currently, the sanctuary has 15 mooring permits, with 20 additional site permits pending. Sanctuary staff added four new anchors for buoys to be installed next year. Added: New Orleans, Mowatt, Rend, and Scanlon’s Barge. It is anticipated that the we should have the pending permits by next spring.

Volunteer Appreciation Night October 20. The volunteer appreciation night held on October 20th was very successful. At the event, Jeff announced that we have renamed Thunder Bay’s volunteer award, “*The Betty Krueger Volunteer of the Year Award.*” Sanctuary staff felt this was an appropriate way to honor Betty for all of her hard work and dedication to the sanctuary.

Allison announced that a volunteer training session to train visitor center greeters will be held on November 18th for a few hours in the morning.

“America’s Underwater Treasures.” PBS channel aired the Jean-Michel Cousteau series, “America’s Underwater Treasures”, throughout the summer. To promote the program that featured Thunder Bay, Ashley Deming showed the individual programs in the theater throughout the week leading up to the film’s premier. Sanctuary staff will notify you if we decide to air the series in the theater again.

Nordmeer 40th Anniversary Event. Wayne Lusardi is planning an event to recognize the 40th anniversary of the wrecking of the Nordmeer. The event is planned for November 9, from 6:00-9:00pm. At this event, Wayne will give a small presentation on the history of the Nordmeer. Some of the people that were involved with the rescue and salvage attempts will also be present to talk about their experience. There was an article in The Alpena News requesting people with artifacts and photos to bring them in to the sanctuary to be displayed during this event. Wayne did receive some items since that article appeared in the newspaper. Film maker, Rick Mixter, will also be at the event to document some of the event and oral histories of those involved.

Telepresence Program - “Dolphins up Close and Personal.” There will be a public program on November 10th at 2:00 pm., with a teacher in service on November 14th, and a school program on December 4th.

Premier of NASA’s Film “Footprints.” On December 7, NASA will premier its film “Footprints.” This film was designed to be shown on Science on the Sphere and was featured in Time magazine. Thunder Bay NMS is one of seven places that will be featuring the film. A special event will be planned for the film premier, we will let you know the details once it has been scheduled.

Jeff also mentioned that “*The Little Mermaid*” was just re-released with a special program about protecting the ocean’s, this was done in partnership with the Sanctuaries and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The Foundation is working with Disney to get permission for us to show the film in our theater. “*Finding Nemo*” was also re-released with a special message from Jean-Michel Cousteau about protecting the oceans.

GLMHC Exhibits. The exhibits for the visitor center are the biggest project the sanctuary staff is working on right now. The exhibit plan has been in development over the past few years and included brainstorming sessions with the staff, advisory council, exhibit contractors and designers, etc. The contractor, Split Rock Studios, was hired this summer. They are based in Minnesota.

Russ showed a video animation of the proposed exhibit plan. He pointed out the ideas that were incorporated into the design from the SAC’s brainstorming session during the 2003 retreat. The title of the exhibit is “*Shipwreck Century - 1825-1925.*”

MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE:

Charting the Future: Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan Review.

Jeff talked about the scoping period which ended on October 13. There were three public scoping meetings (Alpena, Alcona and Presque Isle). Ten written comments were received, along with the approximately 100 verbal comments. Everyone received a copy of these comments in their meeting packets (a copy is attached.)

Scoping meetings:

- 9/24 Alpena - Historian's Meeting (attendance - 4)
- 9/25 Presque Isle (attendance - 6)
- 9/26 Alpena (attendance - 18)
- 9/28 Alcona (attendance - 10)
- 9/29 Lansing (attendance - 6)

Jeff mentioned that there are extra State of the Sanctuary reports for the members to take to their constituents. The report is a good resource for people to learn what the sanctuary has accomplished.

SAC Scoping Session. During the meeting the council and staff broke into two groups for the SAC scoping session. A copy of the SAC comments is attached.

MPR - Next Steps. Monday the MPR working group will meet and put together working groups for specific topics (i.e. boundary expansion). Tera will put together a draft list of priorities/issues and the working group will then make recommendations on which SAC members sit on the specific working groups. Jeff commented that the working groups are not limited to just SAC members, but there does need to be at least one SAC member per group. If we need to, we can bring in experts in each area. We would like to get the working groups started before the January meeting. If anyone has a particular interest in being on a working group please let Tera know

Public Comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Action Items:

Sanctuary staff will draft and mail meeting minutes to council members.

Jean will send out an e-mail regarding the 2007 meeting dates.

Comments from the 11/8/06 SAC meeting:

- 1 There are different standards for water and air quality for the park service and NOAA. M-DEQ is charged with ensuring water quality and should do special tests for mercury.
- 1 The sanctuary should provide interactive displays at area libraries. They could be a link to the sanctuary.
- 2 Twice a year the sanctuary should meet with other park groups to share information.
- 3 The tribes should be engaged for boundary expansion.
- 4 Include an exhibit on commercial and recreational fishing at the visitor center. Focus on Native American fishing.
- 5 Facilitate a tour boat.
- 6 Because of zebra mussel damage and deterioration of the resources, the resources should be located and documented quickly.
- 7 Brochures are needed with more coordinates and wreck site descriptions.
- 8 Signage is needed.
- 9 There is interest in family boat building, so the program should occur more than once per year.
- 10 A year-round boat building facility is needed.
- 11 A marketing plan is needed. It should be determined who is responsible for marketing (the city, region, county, or sanctuary).
- 12 There needs to be more fundraising. The sanctuary needs to seek funding from donors and grants.
- 13 A local foundation is needed.
- 14 Kayak/non-motorized access to shipwreck sites is needed. Seek property that may be deeded to the sanctuary for access.
- 15 There needs to be outreach to Michigan researchers to determine if they are interested in doing research at the sanctuary.
- 16 For secondary education, there should be curriculum development and dive demonstrations provided to students. The curriculum could include topics such as diving and photography in addition to traditional topics.
- 17 There should be adult programs for tall ships.
- 18 For higher education, there should be an underwater archaeology course, more publicity for courses, and a different instructor. There should also be a maritime history course.
- 19 Courses should be held at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center.
- 20 Staff from the sanctuary should be on ACC committees (underwater archaeological research, preservation, diving).
- 21 There needs to be a plan to maintain artifacts.
- 22 There should be physical science courses related to underwater archaeology (biological, geological, maritime art and photography).
- 23 Education about law enforcement should be part of sanctuary resource protection.
- 24 There should be funding and training for ROVs and side scan surveys.
- 25 Increase funding for ROV regional championships for the national competition. There

- needs to be a strategic plan for funding ROV teams regionally.
- 26 Boundary expansion considerations: staffing problems, smaller displays at lighthouse locations, share resources, and volunteer training for outer locations.
 - 27 The sanctuary needs to obtain SAC consensus on boundary expansion.
 - 28 There needs to be a way to prove artifacts were acquired legally. There needs to be a formal policy for donations, possibly anonymous donations.
 - 29 A trolley system could link places together for large events.
 - 30 Local knowledge about the sanctuary and the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center needs to increase. Local places need to know where the visitor center is and how to get there. Signage is needed.
 - 31 The sanctuary should hold an informational session for business owners after hours.
 - 32 Good Morning Alpena meetings should be held at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center.
 - 33 There needs to be better parking access at the center.
 - 34 The sanctuary should develop contacts with cultural entities associated with Thunder Bay's shipwrecks, such as the *Nordmeer*, for research and other purposes. Telepresence could be used for communication.
 - 35 An exhibit should focus on women and their role on the Great Lakes (past and current). Another focus could be occupations on the Great Lakes.
 - 36 Get shipmasters here for meetings. They could discuss career opportunities.
 - 37 Seek funding. Potential opportunities: Homeland Security and 302 Funding for ROVs, Community Foundation of Northeast Michigan and the Youth Advisory Council for kid's ROVs, the Michigan Humanities Council Grant for entertainment, and the Power Squadron Great Lakes Seamanship Award.

Issues from the 9/24/06 meeting in Alpena
(including Association for Great Lakes Maritime History Meeting attendees)

- 1 Accessibility of the sanctuary's education program:**
 - 1 Provide educational opportunities for schools throughout Michigan.
 - 2 Provide more training to educators.
 - 3 Develop educational kits for students.
- 2 Protection of the resources:**
 - 1 Increase monitoring at shipwreck sites with cameras.
 - 2 Provide more education about monitoring programs. For example, educate the public about cameras placed at sites. If the public is aware that cameras may be present, they will be less likely to take or harm the resources.
 - 3 Install more mooring buoys.
 - 4 Expand the boundaries to include shipwreck sites that warrant protection, such as the *Cornelia B. Windiate*.
- 3 Accessibility of the resources:**
 - 1 Install more mooring buoys to identify shipwreck sites.
 - 2 Foster charter operations in the sanctuary.
- 4 Marketing:**
 - 1 Increase awareness about the sanctuary, its resources, and programs by establishing clear objectives for marketing.
- 5 Research:**
 - 1 Use of out-of-state researchers by the sanctuary is necessary because there are few programs in Michigan that specialize in areas needed for sanctuary research.

Issues from the 9/25/06 meeting in Presque Isle

- 1 Boundary expansion:**
 - 1 Boundary expansion from lighthouse to lighthouse would increase protection of the resources in Presque Isle and benefit the county economically by increasing publicity and tourism.
 - 2 The sanctuary has established a good reputation and credibility. It's important that if the boundaries are expanded, that it's done only if it can be done well.

- 3 Expansion could be incremental. Expand the boundary and then gradually implement programs to support the expansion.
- 4 If boundaries aren't expanded, designate Presque Isle as a "Friend of the Sanctuary."
- 2 Accessibility of the resources:**
 - 1 Foster another glass bottom boat.
 - 2 Make the resources more accessible to kayakers and snorkelers by installing mooring buoys and supporting or promoting kayak rentals.
- 3 Education and outreach:**
 - 1 Increase collaboration and networking between the sanctuary and the Presque Isle Museum Society and Presque Isle lighthouses for cross promotion. Host an evening for lighthouse and museum people with a presentation and exchange of information.
 - 2 Work closer with local newspapers to increase awareness about the sanctuary and its programs.
 - 3 Target visitors' point of contact, such as gas station attendants, and provide them with information about the sanctuary.
 - 4 Provide more teacher in-service training.
 - 5 Provide information about the sanctuary at school outings to the Presque Isle lighthouses.
 - 6 Show Tragedies in the Mist at the local theater with a low donation fee.

Issues from the 9/26/06 meeting in Alpena

- 1 Water and air quality:**
 - 1 Increase testing of water quality.
 - 2 Determine the effect of water quality on the shipwrecks and divers.
 - 3 Pollution regulations are needed near the sanctuary to ensure clean air and water.
 - 4 Mercury risk to divers should be determined.
- 2 Protection of the resources:**
 - 1 Determine the impact of zebra mussels on the resources.
 - 2 More periodic monitoring of the wrecks is needed. For example, dated images could be used to monitor the sites.
 - 3 To avoid accidental damage to wrecks from commercial fishing, provide a map of buoys and wrecks with GPS coordinates.
 - 4 A clear mission to protect and preserve the shipwrecks is needed.
- 3 Accessibility of the resources:**
 - 1 Increase accessibility of shallow water wrecks for kayakers and snorkelers by identifying public launching access sites. Access points need to be developed and the public made aware of these access points.
 - 2 Provide information on where the buoys are located as they are installed and post this information on the website.
- 4 Sanctuary operations:**

- 1 Quicker volunteer turnaround with paperwork and training is needed. Continue developing the volunteer program.
- 5 Accessibility of the sanctuary and the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center:**
 - 1 Better directional signage is needed. Signs are needed outside of Alpena County.
 - 2 Place kiosks at state parks explaining the shipwrecks and the sanctuary.
 - 3 Work closely with the City of Alpena's harbor/marina and attend Harbor Advisory Committee meetings. The marina should be a "gateway to Thunder Bay."
- 6 Education and outreach:**
 - 1 The sanctuary provides good support to educators, including access to educational resources.
 - 2 Environmental issues such as recycling should be included in the education and outreach programs.
 - 3 Partnership with the Department of Natural Resources would be a great opportunity to expand education and outreach. Both have similar concerns such as mussels, and sharing information and resources would benefit both organizations.
 - 4 The Northeast Michigan Integrated Assessment would be a good opportunity to make a connection for outreach purposes.
 - 5 At the state harbor slip reservation website, information about the sanctuary should be provided.
 - 6 The sanctuary and the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center have noticeably increased awareness of maritime heritage, and are probably a part of why the local coastlines seem cleaner.
 - 7 Internet 2 is a great educational tool, linking major community organizations such as Alpena Community College, the hospital, and others.
 - 8 When providing education about the history of the area, fishing heritage should be included. This is and always was a major fishing area for the Great Lakes.
- 7 Boundary expansion:**
 - 1 Boundary expansion may be beneficial to the surrounding communities.
 - 2 The sanctuary and Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center have been great for the economics of the community, attracting many visitors who spend money around town while visiting. Expansion of the boundaries would benefit surrounding communities and increase quality jobs.
 - 3 If there is interest in expanding the boundaries, the DNR has funds to buy coastline but not the funding and manpower to manage it.
 - 4 In regard to expansion, education is key to avoiding hostility. The people should be informed how expansion would benefit them. For example, the fishing charters that are hurting may be more successful doing dive charters. Also, the sanctuary should keep close ties with the tribes because of tribal fishing designations.
- 8 General comments:**
 - 1 Develop and provide alternate activities/dive sites for bad weather days.
 - 2 The partnership with Alpena Regional Medical Center (ARMC) to bring a hyperbaric chamber to Alpena is important for diver safety and will provide a benefit to ARMC.

- 3 The sanctuary should consider a cooperative/sharing relationship with Tobomory, Ontario, Canada.
- 4 Basic services are needed such as clean water, boat services, and restaurants. The sanctuary should develop these resources city wide.
- 5 Lower water levels deny access to Partridge and Bare Points.

Issues from the 9/28/06 meeting in Harrisville

1 Boundary expansion:

- 1 Boundary expansion into Alcona would benefit the resources and the lighthouses.
- 2 The boundary should be expanded as far as necessary to protect the resources.
- 3 Public opinion about boundary expansion seems positive. There does not appear to be concern about the sanctuary by the fishing and dive communities.
- 4 If boundaries are expanded, expand the sanctuary advisory council to include members from the representative counties.

2 Education and outreach:

- 1 The sanctuary's education program has heightened awareness about the sanctuary and its resources, but there is more work to do. The education program needs to be expanded to include schools outside of the local region.
- 2 More communication with Alcona County is needed via the newspaper, information at the library, public notices, PSAs, and the community events calendars.
- 3 Target visitors' first contact so that they are aware of the sanctuary and can give directions and information.

3 Accessibility of the sanctuary and the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center:

- 1 Signage is needed to direct people to the sanctuary and the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center.

4 Marketing:

- 1 The sanctuary needs a formal marketing program.
- 2 Marketing could be used to attract researchers to the area.

5 General comments:

- 1 Provide alternate dive locations during bad weather.
- 2 Expand partnerships with Alcona.
- 3 Assess coastline utilization for tourism.
- 4 Bring tall ships to Harrisville.

Issues from the 9/29/06 meeting in Lansing

6 Education and outreach:

- 1 There needs to be a strategic plan for education.
- 2 There needs to be greater education program development.
- 3 Environmental education needs to be part of the sanctuary's education program.
- 4 There needs to be more outreach to schools in the state.
- 5 An exhibit at the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center should tie in with people

who worked on Thunder Bay. An event could be held to honor them.

7 Research:

- 1 To increase awareness of the sanctuary and opportunities for research there, outreach to important department heads at colleges and universities throughout the state is needed.
- 2 The sanctuary should provide for undergraduate and graduate work at the sanctuary.
- 3 There needs to be a specific plan for research at the sanctuary. For example, request research proposals and use a specific process to evaluate research opportunities to ensure equal opportunity. There need to be specific communication and coordination procedures.
- 4 Research should focus on underwater archaeology, but should also include other maritime researchers.
- 5 Documentation of shallow water wrecks is needed.
- 6 There needs to be greater technology and research program development.

8 Boundary expansion:

- 1 If the boundaries are to be expanded, the people need to know the true economic impact expansion will have on the communities. There needs to be an accounting of the Economic Impact Statement. Baseline measures are needed to determine the economic impact of the sanctuary. Recreation and tourism specialists should be brought in. There are some in the state.

9 Sanctuary operations:

- 1 Planning and management of the sanctuary needs to be more strategic.

10 Protection of the resources:

- 1 There needs to be more monitoring of the resources, including assessment of the impact of human activities on the resources.
- 2 Tools need to be developed to deal with the effects of human use and other sources of damage to the resources.
- 3 Permits may be needed to monitor the sites. Communication with divers is also needed.

11 Community involvement and partnerships:

- 1 The sanctuary advisory council should contain a representative from outside of the local community.
- 2 The sanctuary needs to work more closely with the Department of Natural Resources and other state agencies.
- 3 The sanctuary needs to bring attention to other preserves in the state.

Issues from written comments

12 Accessibility of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center:

- 1 Accessibility is limited by the walking distance created by the ramp. The Center is wheelchair accessible, but not handicapped accessible. A simple set of steps in

front of the main entrance would allow greater access.

- 2 The public use policy for education room and auditorium is generous. Because of it, many local leaders have had a chance to see the facilities, appreciate the hard work being done, and begin to understand the resources in their backyard.

13 Education and outreach:

- 1 The Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center has incorporated school students into the process and made their contribution interesting.
- 2 Better communication and involvement of stakeholders throughout the state is needed. A regular newsletter is needed and notices of new postings on the web should be sent to interested stakeholders who choose to be added to a listserv to receive such announcements.

14 Sanctuary operations:

- 1 A network of volunteers is needed to help staff in the organization, advertisement, and assistance of events provided through the sanctuary. Information about upcoming events should be provided in a timely manner so that people have enough lead time to plan their activities, and scheduled events should not be changed or rearranged. Free up time for paid staff by having a volunteer handle scheduling and rescheduling of volunteers.
- 2 Use strategic planning to inform decisions and priorities, and for future evaluation.

15 Tourism:

- 1 An economic impact study of the community is needed to see how effective the sanctuary has been in boosting tourism. Comments from local businesses (other charters) on the impact of the sanctuary on their business should be solicited. Working agreements in relationship to the private sector are needed to minimize a conflict of interest or competition for business.
- 2 The sanctuary may benefit from modeling after other successful tourist attractions that focus on nautical themes by having:
 - 1 A strong historical component
 - 2 Local ties that are part of something bigger
 - 3 A strong educational component which encourages school groups from elementary to graduate students
 - 4 Many local volunteers
 - 5 Ties with the rest of the community
 - 6 A good gift shop
 - 7 A way to get on the water
 - 8 A large boat which could be toured. For example, one of the old vessels being retired by Lafarge could be used as a centerpiece attraction for Lafarge, Alpena, and the sanctuary.

Most of these things are either in place or already being worked on, but a large vessel as a signature piece for the town and the sanctuary is needed.

16 Research:

- 1 The sanctuary needs to fully utilize Michigan's resources for scientific research. Michigan needs to protect its own maritime heritage resources from within and

this should be the sanctuary's first goal.

- 2 Expand the types of science employed in management of the sanctuary to include a variety of social sciences including the use of needs assessments, economic impact studies, anthropology, archaeology, and program evaluation.
- 3 Develop site documentation projects, under the guidance of a trained archaeologist, using trained Michigan avocational divers and historians to help with site documentation. Acknowledge their knowledge, interest, and abilities, and give them a reason and a way to be involved, and become supporters and protectors of and advocates for the resources.

17 Community involvement and partnerships:

- 1 Continue to tie in marine sanctuary planning with the land side efforts for the US23 heritage route, Northeast Michigan Integrated Assessment, Maritime Heritage Trail, and the MDNR's efforts on park planning in northeast Michigan.
- 2 The sanctuary has reached out to the community, including any group or individual who wished to help or needed help.
- 3 The state side of the partnership should be more actively engaged, including the use of in-state partnerships of all kinds, and regular, visible acknowledgement of the state's involvement and use of the full name of the Sanctuary/Underwater Preserve.
- 4 Allow the opportunity to submit competitive proposals, with Michigan-first priority for partnership work unless it's impossible to find the skills, abilities, and equipment within the state.
- 5 Engage Michigan organizations and avocationalists in the work of resource management.

18 Boundary expansion:

- 1 It is time to expand the sanctuary boundary from the Presque Isle Lighthouse to the Sturgeon Point Lighthouse. Expansion would build on the regional planning effort and protect the many wrecks in Presque Isle and Alcona County waters.