

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- May 22, 2007 Meeting Minutes-

Date: May 22, 2007

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Russ Green, Tera Panknin, Jean Prevo, Ashley Deming, Ellen Brody, Allison Melicharek, Pat Labadie, Joe Geroux, Chuck Bennett, Lindsey Thomas

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi, Gina Stogran

SAC Members: Steve Kroll, Jerry Meek, Deb Pardike, Lynda VanDusen, Kim Wallis-Burke, Bill Estlack, Don Beem, Carol Shafto, Marie Twite

SAC Alternates: Joe Sobczak, David Dekett, Dennis Bodem, Chuck Wiesen, Mike Lakin, John McConnell, Vera Kavanaugh, Eric Cline

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: Brenda Altmeier, John Broadwater, Ed Lindelof, Barb Meek, Tane Casserly, Joe Hoyt, Tim Runyan, Kelly Gleason, Marc-Andre' Bernier, Chris Underwood

Media: Lucas Wilson - The Alpena News

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Jeff Gray introduced the guests that were in Alpena for the Nautical Archeology Society training being held at the sanctuary. Guests included employees from various sanctuaries, as well as Marc-Andre Bernier from Parks Canada, and Chris Underwood the instructor from NAS. The NAS training is the standard program for training divers to do archaeological work.

Jeff also mentioned that Chris Underwood will be giving a talk on the 25th Anniversary of the *Marie Rose* on Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 pm.

Approve Revised SAC Charter. Jean Prevo briefly went over the changes to the expiring Charter that were discussed at the retreat and sent out prior to the meeting. Lynda VanDusen motioned to accept the revised Charter. Bill Estlack seconded the motion. The motion to accept the revised SAC Charter was passed.

SAC Application Working Group. The sanctuary received seven applications for the three vacant positions on the council. The seats to be filled are:

Business Economic Development
Education (K-12) - alternate
Citizen-at-Large - alternate

Jean asked for volunteers to review the applications and give their top three recommendations to Jeff Gray. Chuck Wiesen, Vera Kavanaugh, and Dennis Bodem volunteered to be on the working group. Jean will contact the working group to schedule a meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Russ Green gave an update on the sinkhole research being conducted in the sanctuary. Dr. Bopaiah Biddanda was here last week from the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, he spent two days at the Middle Island sinkhole to retrieve data and samples. Dr. Biddanda will be back every month until the end of summer to collect additional samples.

During his last visit to Thunder Bay NMS, Dr. Biddanda gave a public presentation on the sinkhole project.

Mooring Buoys. Wayne Lusardi spoke about the mooring buoy deployment. Staff redeployed all of the current sites and installed additional blocks for mooring anchors. Wayne stated that we have 18 mooring buoys deployed, which is double the amount from past years.

Data Buoy. The data buoy will be online within the next week or so.

Education & Outreach. Jeff Gray mentioned that the sanctuary had schools groups in for tours almost every day for the past three weeks. He recognized Ashley Deming and all of the sanctuary volunteers for helping make this possible.

Sanctuary Hours. Starting Memorial Day weekend, the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center will be open seven days a week. The hours are Monday through Saturday, 10:00am-4:00pm, and Sundays, 12:00pm-4:00pm.

VICE CHAIR ELECTION

Ed Retherford's term as Vice Chair has expired and he is term limited out. Steve Kroll asked for nominations for a new vice chair. Carol Shafto was nominated. Dennis Bodem motioned to elect Carol Shafto. Chuck Wiesen seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion to elect Carol Shafto as the Vice Chair carried unanimously.

BOUNDARY RESOLUTION & DISCUSSION

During the last meeting, Carol Shafto and Steve Kroll presented on the boundary working group's research (see attached draft boundary expansion document).

The boundary working group looked at four boundary alternatives:

1. No expansion, stay the same (448 square miles).
2. Presque Isle Lighthouse in Presque Isle County south to Sturgeon Point Lighthouse in Alcona County, East to West 83 degrees longitude (808 square miles).
3. The entire 3,662 square-mile study area, extending from Alcona County to Presque Isle County, east to the international border with Canada. The study area was identified based on the density of known and undiscovered resources, the historical, archaeological, and recreational significance of individual and collective resources, and the maritime landscape.
4. The group considered a larger alternative – all waters off Alpena, Alcona, and Presque Isle Counties plus Spectacle Reef – but excluded it because interest expressed by the public and local governments was limited to expansion to Presque Isle, Alpena, and Alcona Counties. The group also discussed expanding to Presque Isle and Alcona Counties east to the West 83 degrees longitude, but excluded it due to the potential for well preserved, undiscovered wrecks in deeper waters to the east.

The boundary working group is recommending the 3,662 square mile area. During the study it was determined that this area includes a number of known and unknown shipwrecks and, therefore, supported the mission of the sanctuary and the sanctuary advisory council, which is resource protection.

There were some concerns expressed during the working group's research. One of the concerns was reallocating government seats on the advisory council. Jeff and the boundary working group met with the local government representatives to discuss these concerns.

The possibility of large expectations from other communities was also discussed. It was a concern that if we expand to other counties they might expect to have the same things that the sanctuary has provided in Alpena (i.e. visitor center, signage, etc.) Carol stated that once the SAC has passed a resolution, she and Jeff will visit the other communities to ensure they have an understanding of what having the sanctuary expanded to their area means.

Steve Kroll added that he thought the working group really considered every possible option. They looked at the pros and cons. He feels that it is important that the council realizes our main goal is preserving maritime heritage and we need to focus on that mission and support the resolution to the expand the boundary. With the larger boundaries, we will have a greater capability of protecting these valuable cultural resources.

Carol drafted a resolution to reflect the working group's recommendation (see attached resolution). She reviewed the resolution proposed. Carol also made it clear that this vote is just to pass the Sanctuary Advisory Council's recommendation, this is not actually changing the boundaries. By passing this resolution, the SAC will be showing their support to expand the boundary.

Bill Estlack motioned to pass the resolution and go forward. Marie Twite seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion to accept the resolution for boundary expansion was passed unanimously.

FUNDING WORKING GROUP

Chuck Wiesen gave an update on the funding working groups progress. The group has looked at ways to do fundraising by joining foundations, becoming 501c3, etc. After researching and discussing all of these options, it was found that becoming a chapter of the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation was the best option. Jeff and the working group have had conversations with the Foundation and it was decided that the foundation will cover 50% of the staffing costs. Thunder Bay's 50% will come from the Betty Krueger Estate. We are hoping to find someone with experience in fundraising, grant writing, and community relations. It was recommended by the working group that we move ahead with a relationship with the foundation. This joint project with the foundation will be a pilot project and may be an example to other sanctuary sites, making it a very good opportunity for Thunder Bay NMS, as well as NMSF.

The question of what percent will go to the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation was asked. Jeff said 10% of funds raised will go to them, the rest will stay here.

One of the outcomes of this project will be a manual that will go to all the sanctuary sites to show them how to run a local chapter of the National Foundation.

Dennis Bodem motioned to move ahead with the funding working groups recommendation to pursue a relationship with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation and start a local chapter. Don Beem seconded the motion. The motion to support the recommendation was unanimously passed.

MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE

Ed Lindelof, Tera Panknin, Jeff Gray and Ellen Brody met and discussed that over the next two months, they would like the staff and working groups to finalize their reports and then present them at the next SAC meeting. So far, three groups have presented their reports and there are three groups remaining.

Ed Lindelof spoke about what we are looking to have submitted. The management plan is a working document for 5-7 years. The important element for the SAC working groups, will be putting those recommendations into a stronger document and adding timelines for the activities, costing out those activities, and determining what are the performance elements that will need to

be looked at to see if we are completing these projects. The final plan will also include information about Thunder Bay NMS, so anyone looking at the plan would be able to get an overview of the sanctuary and its mission.

Ed Lindelof thanked the council and the staff for all of the hard work they have put into the management plan review so far.

Public Comment.

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. Following the meeting a going away party was held for Allison Melicharek.

Action Items:

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

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- September 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes-

Date: September 18, 2007

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

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

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi

SAC Members: Don Beem, Kathleen Hubbard, Olin Joynton, Steve Kroll, Jerry Meek, Ed Retherford, Deb Pardike, Carol Shafto, Joe Sobczak, Karen Tetzlaff, Lynda VanDusen, Kim Wallis–Burke

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

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: None.

Media: None.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Approve May 22nd SAC Meeting Minutes. Dennis Bodem motioned to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2007 meeting. Chuck Wiesen seconded the motion, the minutes were passed.

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

Maritime History & Interpretation - Kathleen Hubbard

Kathleen Hubbard reported on maritime history and interpretation. She said that many people in the area don't know a lot about the past and she thinks that, "You must look to the past, to plan for the future." Therefore, our community is lucky to have a wonderful resource like the sanctuary.

Kathleen feels that we really need to focus on reaching students. She has been trying to enrich the education environment with art history projects. She also thinks that the ever changing

displays in the visitor center are a big part of getting people to come in to the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center. She found that many of her students and their families didn't know about the GLMHC before coming in to see the art displays. The local historical view will capture the interest of residents, as well as visitors.

In 2006, Kathleen did a project with her class where they went into the collection and were handed a folder to research. She found it so interesting, she didn't want to leave. The collection is fully cataloged and almost completely digitized. She recommends that everyone go in and take a look at one of the files.

She would also like to see more information available for kayakers.

Diving - Steve Kroll

Steve Kroll gave a report on the diving community. Steve thinks that diving is really on the upswing. He said it was his busiest charter season to date and that the majority of his charters this summer have been tech divers. He was busy almost every weekend and is almost completely booked for next summer. Steve thinks that because there seem to be more private divers than charters, there is more room for charter businesses.

Steve said he had groups from Lansing, Northern Ohio, Chicago, Grand Rapids, and one group from Canada.

Pat asked if Steve got the impression that Detroit divers are not interested in diving in Thunder Bay? Steve said that he does have a group from the Detroit area, the Ford Sea Horses, that come up annually to dive in Thunder Bay.

The question was asked, "How do you advertise your business?" Steve thinks that most of his charters come from word of mouth.

SANCTUARY UPDATE - Jeff Gray

This summer Jordan Parrillo from the National Marine Sanctuary Program was in Alpena to conduct a survey. He distributed the surveys in the visitors' center throughout the summer and he also had dive charters pass them out. This was an initial maritime heritage tourism survey. Jeff is trying to get Jordan to come back here next summer to do an even bigger survey. Jordan will be back sometime this winter and will present the survey results at a SAC meeting.

Heather Hohman, one of the summer fellows, worked on a draft kayak route plan this summer. Heather and the staff also started meeting with the maritime heritage route committee to work on ways to gain access to the shallow wrecks.

***"Gales of November"* - November 13 at 7:30pm.** The sanctuary is partnering with the Alpena Community Concert Association to bring the musical show *"Gales of November"* to Alpena on November 13, 2007 at 7:30pm at the Alpena High School Auditorium. This show is only on

tour for four weeks, in eleven cities in the Midwest. *Gales of November* is based on the play, “*Ten November*” which is a story of the *Edmond Fitzgerald*. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the sanctuary office, Neiman’s and the National City Bank.

ARMC Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine. Construction is underway at the hospital for the hyperbaric chamber. Jeff thinks that the grand opening of the center will be sometime in November or December. The center will start with two chambers and has room to add up to two more. Jeff will look into getting someone to give a presentation at the SAC next meeting.

Thunder Bay Sanctuary Research Collection - Pat Labadie

The sanctuary formed a partnership with the Alpena County Library three years ago. Pat started the collection with 19th-century vessel files, with the information and photos coming from a variety of sources. In 2006, the library received a grant to digitize the vessel files. The digitization project will end in September. Pat gave an overview of the digital files, the information they contain and how they are organized. Pat also spoke about plans of applying for more grants and the possibility of receiving more images and data from outside sources.

Thunder Bay Island Shipwrecks - Wayne Lusardi

The 2007 field season began in early May when Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) instructors were here. NAS training is the standard program for training amateur divers to do archaeological work. The NAS instructors trained some of the Thunder Bay staff on how to conduct an archaeology class.

After the training course was over, the students and tutors conducted fieldwork in Thunder Bay, concentrating on North Point and Thunder Bay Island.

Wayne talked about one of the most heavily visited sites in the sanctuary, the *Monohansett*, which is located in 18 feet of water. This shipwreck was never archaeologically documented until 2004. This documentation project resulted in a graduate thesis and outreach materials. The site plans that were developed from the project can be transferred to dive slates or dive cards that are used to help divers understand what they are looking at. Since the *Monohansett* survey was completed in 2004, there have been about a dozen or more other sites that have this level of documentation completed.

Also in 2004, a survey of Thunder Bay Island’s shoreline was conducted. During the survey, staff and graduate students recorded all of the wreckage along the shoreline. From this survey a list of historic losses that happened on or near Thunder Bay Island was produced. Many of the shipwrecks around the island have now been identified.

Middle Island Sinkhole Project - Russ Green.

Russ gave an overview of some of the fieldwork he and other staff member were involved in over the summer. One of these projects was the Middle Island Sinkhole. There were over 20

people conducting research in the sinkhole. These included students and researchers from Grand Valley State University, University of Wisconsin Superior, the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, and University of Michigan. During their research, they discovered a bacteria living in the sinkhole which they will continue to study.

Exhibits. Russ gave a quick update on the exhibit plan. He said they are hoping to be open by May 2008.

Education & Outreach - Summer 2007

Many programs and tours have been given at the sanctuary since the spring. These include:

- Over 30 end of the school year programs
- Alpena High School Marine Art Show
- Social Studies Enrichment Day
- NAS Tutor Course
- ACC Engineering Day Camp
- Past Foundation Student Project
- Travel Michigan Journalists Events (journalists from all around the country)
- Crosswinds Writing Institute
- 6 bus tour groups this summer, with 20 public tours total

Other outreach events the sanctuary has been involved with include:

- Friday Nights Downtown
- Highlander Sea* Visit
- ACC Shipwreck Detectives Day Camp
- Great Lakes Natural Resources 4H Camp

ROV Team. The ROV team from Thunder Bay competed in the MATE International ROV Competition held in New Foundland. The team placed 6th overall.

Maritime Festival. The Thunder Bay Maritime Festival continues to be a success with better attendance every year. Jeff estimates around 10,000 people attended. During this year's festival the opening of the Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail was also celebrated.

COSEE. The Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE) Lake Huron held a workshop at the GLMHC. Twenty teachers from around the country attended the workshop.

Black Sea Telepresence - During the week of August 20, expeditions with Dr. Ballard from the Black Sea were broadcast via telepresence into the theater. Over 600 people were in the building that week to attend the broadcasts.

Aquarius. On September 19, we will be showing a telepresence broadcast from *Aquarius*. *Aquarius* is an underwater ocean laboratory located in the Florida Keys National Marine

Sanctuary. The laboratory is deployed three and half miles offshore, at a depth of 60 feet, next to spectacular coral reefs. Scientists live in *Aquarius* during 10–day missions using saturation diving to study and explore our coastal ocean. *Aquarius* is owned by NOAA and is operated by the NOAA Undersea Research Program’s (NURP) Undersea Research Center at the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

Lincoln School students will be here to ask questions. Kate Thompson of the National Marine Sanctuary Program will be at *Aquarius* facilitating the program.

Other outreach items that are completed:

- Website redesign - including a new section called “Notes from the Field”
- Lesson Plans
- Children’s Activity Guide
- Rack Card
- Encyclopedia of the Sanctuaries

2007 Leadership Team Meeting. The week of September 10, Jeff and Russ attended the National Marine Sanctuary Program’s Leadership Meeting which was held at Discovery World Pier Wisconsin, the second half of the meeting was in Chicago at the Shedd Aquarium.

MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW UPDATE

Jeff mentioned that we are behind where we initially thought we would be with the Management Plan Review. Jeff spoke to the regional director and it was decided that Ellen Brody will devote some of her time working with us on our MPR to get us back on track.

MPR Working Group Reports -

Boundary Expansion. In May, the SAC passed the boundary recommendations. Since then the sanctuary has received seven recommendations and/or resolutions passed by other local groups and government agencies in support of this expansion (see attached). We have also had Congressional interest in the boundary expansion, especially with Senator Levin’s staff.

Funding. The main recommendation made by the funding working group was to develop a partnership with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

Thunder Bay and headquarter’s staff are working to develop action plans from the recommendations made by the other four working groups. These working groups include:

- Education and Outreach
- Research and Monitoring
- Resource Protection
- Operations

Ocean’s Live Presentation - Kate Thompson

Kate Thompson was broadcast live from *Aquarius*, where they are conducting research on coral

reefs. This project will be going on all week, Kate is coordinating.

November SAC Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20. It was discussed that this is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Sanctuary staff will look at the calendar to see if we need to change it, but for now just keep it marked down as November 20.

Public Comment. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Action Items:

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

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- December 4, 2007 Meeting Minutes-

Date: December 4, 2007

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

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

MEETING ATTENDEES

NOAA: Jeff Gray, Tera Panknin, Jean Prevo

State of Michigan: Wayne Lusardi

SAC Members: Jerry Meek, Joe Sobczak, Deb Pardike, Don Beem, Carol Shafto, Bill Estlack, Ed Retherford, Olin Joynton, Steve Kroll

SAC Alternates: John McConnell, Brenda Fournier, Mike Lakin, Dennis Bodem, John McVeety, Ken Gauthier, Vera Kavanaugh, Art Gillespie

Ex-officio Member: None

Public: None.

Media: None.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Jeff Gray spoke briefly about Senator Levin's recent visit. He said the Senator was delighted with the visit and mentioned that it was the first time he had ever scheduled a meeting with just members of the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

New Members. Jeff introduced the new SAC members. There are three new members:

John McVeety, Citizen-at-Large - Alt.

Shari Davis, Education - Alt.

Carl Bourdelais, Business/Economic Development

Shari and Carl were not able to make it to the meeting, but have spoken to Jean and are very excited to be on the council.

Chair Election. Steve mentioned that his two-year term as chair will be ending in January, therefore, an election for chair will be held at the February meeting.

Seats Expiring in 2008. Jean went over the seats that will be expiring in 2008. These seats are:

Business/Economic Development

Alternate - Ronald Chatfield

Citizen-at-Large

Kimberly Wallis-Burke

Alternate - Vera Kavanaugh

Education – higher education

Olin Joynton

Alternate - Chuck Wiesen

Fishing

Edward Retherford

Alternate - Arthur Gillespie

Recreation

Donald Beem

Alternate - David Dekett

Jean encouraged everyone to reapply and suggested if they know anyone that is interested in being on the council, to please let them know. Applications will be ready at the February meeting.

2008 SAC Meeting Dates. Steve went over the proposed 2008 meeting dates that were mailed to everyone with their agenda. Olin asked about whether or not there will be a retreat in 2008. Jeff stated that the February meeting will be very intense with all of the management plan review items that need to be completed, so we had not scheduled a retreat at this time. He stated that we may change one of the meeting dates to a retreat if we feel it is needed.

The meeting dates that were distributed were agreed upon by the council members that were present and have been set for 2008.

Jean will send out the final 2008 meeting schedule with the December minutes.

Approve September 18th SAC Meeting Minutes. Dennis Bodem motioned to approve the minutes from the September 18, 2007 meeting. John McConnell seconded the motion, and the minutes were passed.

PRESENTATION

The Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine - ARMC Staff - Tom Kane and John Schultz. ARMC Staff gave a presentation on the different medical uses for the hyperbaric chambers that were purchased in partnership with Thunder Bay NMS. The center will have an open house on Thursday, December 13, 2007 from 4:00-6:00pm.

SAC CHAIRS ANNUAL MEETING - Steve Kroll

Steve gave an overview of the meeting that will be held in May 2008 at the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary. This year's meeting will be using the concept of cross-pollination of the regions, which includes only one case study per region, instead of each site presenting on an issue.

Also on the agenda is the *Blue Seas Green Communities Initiative*. The National Marine Sanctuary Program would like the sanctuaries to lead their communities in environmental protection and has asked each advisory council to form a working group to work on this initiative. Wayne and Jean will be the staff in charge of the working group. Jeff asked for SAC participation and Vera Kavanaugh, Olin Joynton, and Steve Kroll volunteered. Jean and Wayne will be contacting the group to schedule an initial meeting after the holidays.

Jeff also mentioned that we can have outside members involved in working groups, so please contact Wayne and Jean if you know anyone you think might be interested in participating in the *Blue Seas Green Communities Initiative*.

Jeff also talked about the possibility of making the sanctuary a smoke-free campus, following Alpena Regional Medical Center's lead. Staff will be looking into this initiative.

SANCTUARY UPDATE - Jeff Gray

US Coast Guard. Jeff introduced Chief Rick Houchin, from the US Coast Guard. Jeff has invited him to start joining our council meetings, as many other sites have a member of their local Coast Guard on their councils as a nonvoting member.

Sanctuary staff are working with the Coast Guard to plan another emergency drill like they conducted two years ago. The first drill was very productive and helped identify some issues that needed to be addressed.

Rick has also been key in implementing enforcement within the sanctuary. The Coast Guard conducted overhead flights when suspected shipwreck looters were in the area and also have auxiliary boats on the water checking them out. We look forward to having Rick at our meetings and continuing to work with the Coast Guard on enforcement and safety issues.

“Gales of November” & Edmund Fitzgerald Presentation. On November 13, the Alpena Community Concert Association, Thunder Bay NMS and the Alpena Convention & Visitor's Bureau teamed up to bring the show “*Gales of November*” to Alpena. Deb Pardike spoke about the partnership between the organizations that made it possible for our community to have the opportunity to see this caliber of performers. The sanctuary staff contributed an unbelievable amount of time on printing and designing the posters, brochures, and programs, selling tickets, and promoting the show. Jeff estimated that there were about 400 people in attendance. Deb reiterated that having a national marine sanctuary here brings these kind of opportunities to our community, and that arts are just another great avenue to bring maritime history to life and to reach out to other groups in our community.

On November 10, Pat Labadie gave a presentation on the *Edmund Fitzgerald*. The GLMHC theater was full and there was a tremendous positive response from the community.

In the future, Jeff would like to see these types of presentations filmed and posted on our website.

Alpena Holiday Parade. The sanctuary had a float in the annual holiday parade. This year's float was a re-creation of the ship *Monohansett* which burned and sank off Thunder Bay Island on November 23, 1907. The float was in honor of its 100 year anniversary. The sanctuary was awarded third place in the non-commercial category. Thanks to Olin Joynton for volunteering.

Outreach. Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut will be opening a maritime heritage exhibit featuring three National Marine Sanctuaries. These sanctuaries are Thunder Bay, Flower Garden Banks, and the *Monitor*. Jeff will be attending the exhibit opening in December.

Thunder Bay Wrecks Hockey Team. On December 12 at 6:30pm, the sanctuary will be hosting an open house for the Thunder Bay Wrecks. During this event, Dan Basta will speak to them about careers and the National Marine Sanctuary Program. Jeff Konczak of Alpena Marc, LLC, will talk about the Wrecks and their role as sanctuary ambassadors, which includes handing out brochures, bringing other teams in to the sanctuary when they are playing locally, etc. It's a great outreach program for Thunder Bay NMS.

Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Trail. The trail is beginning phase 2. The sanctuary and the Exchange Club have been talking about a partnership to raise money for a playground that will be located behind the GLMHC. This project is still in the beginning phase and staff have been looking into grants that might be available such as a grant to promote physical fitness and reduce childhood obesity. It is to be used for playgrounds designed specifically to promote physical fitness.

Thunder Bay Sanctuary Research Collection Update.

- The original grant received by Alpena County Public Library has been completed.
- NOAA grant has been extended to scan the images from the University of Wisconsin
- Public interface - being designed and hope to have the collection on line after the first of the year
- Alpena Room - will open in the spring

Telepresence. Telepresence continues to be a major push for our sanctuary. Jeff will be traveling to Rhode Island to meet with Dr. Ballard and his team. On December 11, one of Ballard's staff members will be here to meet with Jeff and Dan Basta to discuss possible projects in Thunder Bay.

Last Saturday, the sanctuary hosted a broadcast from the University of Michigan called "*Saturday Morning Physics*." We are the only off-site location that they connect to. These

programs will be starting back up in February 2008. Staff has had discussion with UofM about bringing the professors here and then broadcasting to the university.

Exhibits - *Exploring the Shipwreck Century*. December 29 is the last day the current exhibits will be open. The GLMHC will be closed for about five months. On January 2, Timm Construction will begin prepping the space for the installation of the permanent exhibits. The rest of the building will be open and staff will continue to work in the administrative area.

Activity Books. Thunder Bay NMS children's activity books are completed and have been printed. Please feel free to pick some up from the sanctuary.

UPDATED MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW SCHEDULE:

2/01/08-2/12/08	Working groups meet to provide comments on action plans
2/12/08	SAC receives action plans to review for the February 19, 2008 SAC meeting
2/19/08	SAC votes on the action plans at the SAC meeting
2/20/08-5/01/08	Development of the Draft Management Plan (DMP) including introductory sections and budgets, timelines, and performance measures for action plans
5/08	DMP review at the site, state, and regional level
6/08	HQ clearance of the DMP
7/08	Finalize, layout, and print the DMP
10/08	Release the DMP and begin DMP public review/comment period Present the DMP to the SAC DMP public meetings
11/08	End DMP public review/comment period Prepare Final Management Plan (FMP)

Foundation Development Manager. The local position with the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation was posted last week. This position is to work jointly with Thunder Bay NMS and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation to coordinate fundraising, public relations, marketing and outreach events.

Public Comment. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Action Items:

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

Sanctuary staff will mail the schedule of 2008 meeting dates.