

NLMI Cultural Subcommittee Meeting
Adopted Minutes
Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7 p.m.
Peaine Township Hall

Call in #: **1-415-464-6800**
Passcode: **49782 followed by the # sign**

Present on the phone: Wes Andrews, Lori Taylor-Blitz, Lee Boisvert, Terri Bussey, Bobbi Welke
On site: Mark Engelman, Pam Grassmick, Alvin LaFreniere, and Kitty McNamara

1. Call the Meeting to Order. The meeting was called to order by Chair Lee Boisvert at 7 p.m. Wes Andrews offered to host the next conference call of the Cultural Subcommittee. Those new numbers will be sent out for the next meeting with the agenda.

2. Adoption of Minutes from October 27th meetings were circulated electronically. (McNamara/LaFreniere) Unanimously adopted without changes.

3. Correspondence: No written correspondence has been received. Lee congratulated Kitty on her new position as St. James Township Supervisor. BIHS offers to administer Cultural Subcommittee grants-Lee Boisvert will send a letter of thanks.

4. Comments from the Chair: The background on the 7 & 4 news story about Garden Island Cemetery was discussed and TV 7 & 4 pulled the news piece scheduled for release during Halloween weekend. MKD met with the news director, then sent a letter to both the news director and the station manager requesting that the piece be pulled and never shown. LTBB met with news director and stated the tribal position and it was agreed not to be shown. Wes suggested other highlights be taped to the shows producer on the archipelago and the Cultural Subcommittee. No further discussions have taken place with 7 & 4 television. MKD will be sending a letter to CMU regarding the use of cemetery visits and the use MKD's private property. Wes pointed out that by identifying the cemetery site through the media is to threaten and exploit it to tourism.

Lee pointed out that at NRESC meetings with the DNR last summer, she spoke of the need for additional protection for High and Garden Islands. She spoke to Keith Kintigh about the need for protection; however, Keith is no longer with the Wildlife Division. During Lee's boat travels, she informally surveyed passengers. Preservation of the islands was consistently brought up and thought to be a priority. Kitty commented on the Master Planning process and balancing preservation with promotion of the islands. Resilient Beaver Island has a website with the latest information on the planning process and the response data compiled. Cultural resource protection has now been identified and endorsed by the NLMIC members as a priority and has a prominent section in the Island's new Master Plan. Last August an additional conference call concluded that the state needs to do a better job on cultural resources in general but how that will be achieved has yet to be determined.

5. Roundtable Sharing: Grassmick reported that Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) monitoring will take place in 2017. The traps and lures have been ordered from APHIS and we will receive entomology support from the MDARD. The NRESC began the monitoring program and Beaver Island Association will take the trapping over this year until a new intergovernmental agreement can be made with the townships. EAB traps will be placed early June through August. To date no EAB has been detected and the firewood quarantine remains in place.

The proposed Community Communications Platform position for the first Island Fellow was briefly

discussed as to the benefits for the Cultural Subcommittees proposed work, LTBB and MDNR communications to the island community and visitors, along with the potential to assist the townships with a kiosk type platform for information. The communication's application will be filed shortly by BIA to the Island Institute (II) and OGL. The II will administer the grant. Funding is still being pursued.

The Office of Great Lakes staff will be visiting Beaver Island between January 31st and February 2nd. They will be meeting with township officials, business leaders, and islanders to discuss programs and the needs of the island community.

Terry Bussey spoke on the Amik Society's acquisition of property on Bonner's Landing and their role as protector and owner of Native American sites. She mentioned that the Amik Society may procure additional property. They received non-profit status in 1991. Congratulations resounded from all those at the meeting. Their hope is to create a gathering place at the site and a building for storage. The land and proposed building were generously donated by the family who owned the property. It is planned to have the outside look like an Odawa structure. Terry is working in Springfield, Missouri with a Museum Studies program. Kitty suggested Terry contact the capital campaign committee for the BIHS to coordinate activities. Bobbi Welke commented that a strategic planning development committee of the BIHS will be applying for a grant and suggested that the needs or action items of the Cultural Subcommittee be articulated to the BIHS. Wes Andrews gave an update on the cultural data base. A federal grant has been secured to purchase a LTBB server which will be used for the storage of information. LiDAR data is being pursued and in the final stages of planning. Wes is hiring another assistant to help with planning. Local tribal funding resources have slowed but the federal funds will be used to focus on these cultural resource data bases. Experience with LIDAR data collection and use is being pursued. Alvin asked about OGL funding and how to keep the state engaged in pursuing a Cultural Resource Manager. No short-term solution identified. Discussion took place on the future of federal protections of cultural resources and the National Preservation Act under the new Trump administration. Terry logged off at 8:10 p.m. Lori will send a spreadsheet out to members on potential funding options for the Cultural Resource Committee from foundations.

Next NLMI Collaborative meeting is scheduled at the LTBB offices in Harbor Springs-February 9th.

Lee and Wes will present an update at the February NLMIC general meeting for the Cultural Subcommittee. Members are encouraged to provide input.

Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Grassmick