

**North Lake Michigan Islands Collaborative
Cultural Resources Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2017: 7:00 PM
Conference Call and Meeting at Peaine Township Hall
Toll-free access number [1-800-941-0912](tel:1-800-941-0912)
Pin number [552826](tel:552826)**

Mission Statement: Preserve and protect the past, present, and future cultural resources of the Beaver Island Archipelago.

1. Call to Order/Additions or corrections to the Agenda
Present: Wes Andrews, Lee Boisvert, Alvin LaFreniere, Bobbi Welke
Lack of quorum discussed. It was agreed that these four members would work as a working committee in regard to some of the work discussed below.
2. Approve Draft Meeting Minutes from August 7, 2017 meeting – these meeting minutes will be approved via e-mail the week of November 4th when a committee member returns to the Island.
3. Management Plan References:
 - NLMI’s “Management Plan for State-owned Lands on Northern Lake Michigan Islands,” MDNR, May 2016 (page 5)
 - Goal 3, Cultural Resources: Collaborate with partners to promote respect and understanding of important cultural resources.
 1. Identify and document important cultural characteristics
 - a. Create a suite of cultural objectives, either narrative or numeric, for short-term and long-term horizons
 - b. Monitor success of prioritized management strategies
 2. Identify key stressors or threats facing those cultural elements
 - a. Characterize severity, scope, irreversibility of stressors/threats
 - b. Identify gaps in knowledge
 3. Identify and prioritize protection efforts needed to address stressors and achieve the cultural objectives
 - a. Implement priority cultural strategies
 - i. Protect prioritized cultural resources
 1. Create cultural education program including signage and other educational materials
 - ii. Restore prioritized cultural resources
 - b. Monitor success of prioritized cultural strategies
 4. Develop educational materials that focus on promoting respect and understanding of important cultural resources
 - Beaver Island Master Plan, June 12, 2017 (page 133)
 - Action Plan Ideas for Community Action: Cultural Resources

- Secure cultural easements for ceremonies in sacred spaces. A cultural easement is a voluntary legal agreement that preserves culturally or historically significant sites on privately-owned land.
- Review the state-documented cultural resources on the Island and add to the list as needed.
- Inventory historic structures in disrepair and identify priorities for reuse and preservations including the Beaver Head Lighthouse and fog signal building located at the south end of the Island.
- Protect and preserve the lighthouse at the south end of the Island.
- Honor the Island's use by Native Americans and other groups through interpretative, bilingual signage along paths and trails.
- Develop a management plan for the Island's cultural resources.

Old Business

4. Proposed protection area: 4 to 5 miles out? 5 miles will include Fox Islands. Matt Preisser of OGL suggests we be as flexible as possible. Perhaps 4 ½ miles will include the Foxes. **Action Item:** Lee will work with the LTBB GIS unit to develop this limit.
5. Definition of Cultural Resources as amended for NML Islands' Collaborative meeting August 17, 2017: **Cultural Resources Definition:** Sites or objects that have important historical and social significance, including meeting places, documents, objects, stone structures and stone works, archaeological sites and historic places. Cultural resources can also include natural features and resources. From a tribal perspective, cultural resources are places where the lifestyle and culture of the Anishinaabek, past and present, has created some type of importance to the site. These include, but are not limited to fishing and hunting sites, places where spirits inhabit or use, places where specific plants, minerals, and rocks are obtained for traditional uses, places where ceremonies were or are performed, burial locations, and places where significant events occurred. Cultural resources can also include natural features, natural resources, and people, past and present. **Action Item:** We need the support of the "Subcommittee" of the whole to accept this definition.
6. Renaming our subcommittee: Wes: As part of the Collaborative, we are a subcommittee. But perhaps the NLMI may not last forever. The BIHS is a working organized partner. The LTBB is a supporting partner. He supports this committee wraps around the BIHS for 'survival'. Alvin supports removing "Subcommittee." All agreed to recommend to the remaining members to call ourselves the Cultural Resources Committee. **Action Item:** We need the support of the "Subcommittee" of the whole to rename the subcommittee to the **Cultural Resources Committee**
7. September 25, 2017 Great Lakes Island Summit Update – Successful summit held
8. Water Trail Update – The Trail project is to be underway by the end of the year.

9. BIHS Update – A signed historic walking trail is being developed between the old Medical Center and the old Coast Guard facility. We would like to place a sign on Back Highway, likely at/near the Fire Department, sharing the story of the Native American Village that was present in the area. The walking trail committee will work with George Anthony to help describe this site.
10. LIDAR Update: The LTBB arranged with Charlevoix County, and the State, to perform LIDAR of the archipelago; this will include shoreline and sensitive sites. This project includes partnering with others such as sharing resources with archaeologists within the National Forests in the UP. It will be set up for subscription service for users to maintain the system which will be housed at the Hiawatha National Forest. This project meets the goals of this committee, the LTBB, the National Forest. Restrictions for use due to sensitivity of information; it is worth noting that sensitive information is not subject to FOIA. LIDAR is done from a plane in the fall when the leaves are off the trees.

Proposed state law: Creation of a public act that provides all determination of all human remains found on state land (like on the Island) go through Native American repatriation act. Wes is opposed due to the standing of the referenced coalition - which does not have legal authority.

New Business

11. Squaw Island: There is interest in changing this island's name. We should seek the support of the entire Collaborative. The LTBB Tribal Council will consider its support. The US Geological Survey's controls naming protocols. **Action Items:** Bobbi: Find the new owner contact info and share the same with Lee and Wes. Lee: Research the US Geological Survey naming protocols. Wes: Seek out the support of the LTBB council.
12. Proposal for Bill Parsons and Archie Kiojima to join this committee: It was noted that they are too busy. It was request that when they were visiting outer islands could they look for burial sites, etc. and note them via GIS. Wes reported that this will show up on LIDAR. LIDAR can even find vegetation and soil types, that it was originally developed for engineering purposes (e.g., elevations, slopes, foundations, etc.). Wes was asked if it can find Sweet Grass which is believed to be located about the center of the Island, near iron ore deposit. Wes reported that LIDAR can find it when it is set up to find this type of information, (i.,e T.&E., etc.) When is the LIDAR work done? It is done in the Autumn and finished in the Spring. It will take a year to process the data. There is only one company (Sanborn Mapping), from Colorado, that does this work.

It was noted that this pending LIDAR activities would be very valuable to the Cultural Resources Committee (CRC) and our appreciation of the work of the LTBB on behalf

of the CRC throughout the archipelago needs to be stated in writing. **Action Item:** Lee and Bobbi will collaborate on a letter of appreciation to the LTBB Council for the Tribe's efforts regarding the preservation and protection of cultural resources throughout the archipelago.

13. Management Action Plan: Lee discussed her questions/answers with DNR officials regarding possible management plans for this committee.

Wes: What is it we are managing or taking action upon? What do we have? (Where is our inventory?) You need to perform an identification before you can complete an evaluation. Then you get to how or the characteristics. What are the nature of the resources. So much is unknown. These things can be worked on.

Lee's Goals Draft: (Meeting Note: There was no discussion on the following – the meeting discontinued).

1. Identify and map the highest priority habitat, species, and cultural in resources in need of conservation attention on the BI Archipelago.
2. Promote the conservations, health, and sustainable use of the landscape and the native terrestrial and aquatic communities that depend, in whole or in part, on the lands and waters of the Beaver Island Archipelago.
3. Secure expert services to search out expert services to assess and provide active support in protecting the numerous archeological sites and artifacts, including stone works and stone structures.
4. Help establish public and private partnerships among participating governmental agencies, including the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewas Indians, community and nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, corporations and private landowners to support the mission of the Beaver Island Archipelago.
5. Create wide recognition of the beauty, significance and universal value of the Archipelago's unique natural and cultural resources.

14. The next meeting will occur on January 15, 2018, at 7:00 pm.

15. Adjournment: Adjournment occurred at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobbi Welke