

1 **Management Plan**
2 **For State Owned Lands On**
3 **Northern Lake Michigan Islands**

4
5 **February 9, 2017**
6

7 Meeting called to order at 9:38 a.m.

8
9 Introductions

10 Present: Jennifer Kleitch, Jim Keiser, Douglas Craven, Alan Proctor, Debra Browne,
11 Billy McNamara, Thomas Clement, Noah Jansen, Shaun Howard, Mike Lynch, Kevin
12 Boyle, Kathleen McNamara, Brad Frederick, Pam Grassmick, Mark Engleman,
13 Seamus Norgaard, Robert Boisvert, Lee Boisvert, Bobbi Welke, Wes Andrews, Brian
14 Mastenbrook, Keith Kintigh, Charles Blakeman, Tracy Blakeman, Tom Callison, Erin
15 Victory.

16 Phone: Matt Preisser, Don Tritsch, Sue Tangora, others?

17
18 Welcome to LTBB – Douglas Craven, LTBB Natural Resource Department Director
19 Welcomed everyone to LTBB Tribal Council Chambers, spoke on the work
20 that has been and is being done on the Islands.
21 Pat Lederle
22

23 Review of the Agenda and notes from the Last Meeting – Pat Lederle

- 24 - Recreation request to address the group;
25

26 Pam Grassmik – Water Trail – Harry Burkholder

- 27 - Plans for the trail
28 - Working with the tribe
29 - T & E clearance and how that will be addressed;
30 o MOU with townships
31 - Did receive a grant to move forward, \$42,000;
32 - A need for signage and lighting – dark skies, sign pollution on the island
33 now.
34 - February 27th will be the next meeting date;
35 - Sustainability
36 o Monitoring area
37 - Chamber of Commerce, Beaver Island Group are working together on the
38 project.
39 - Pat Lederle – commended the group on what has been achieved by the
40 group in such a short time.
41

42 Charles Blakeman – Extreme Adventures

- 43 - Hand outs were distributed outlining the business – Extreme Adventure
44 Business Plan;
45 - Handicap Accessible areas available on the Island;
46 - Provide services to disabled folks such as:
47 o Kayak
48 o Fishing
49 o Sunset Crusies
50 - There has been requests for Kayak tournaments and the Island does not
51 have enough overnight accommodations;
52 - Problem with finding enough Kayaks for the disabled;

- 1 - Fishing Trips;
- 2 - Charter Fishing from the Island;
- 3 - ? have you utilized the Island in prior years?
- 4 o Have used the area in the past for deer hunting and did not go well
- 5

6 Brian Mastenbrook – Public Act 288

- 7 - Off Road Vehicles
- 8 - 14,000 miles of roads in the State of MI
- 9 - Identify roads that are available for ORV usage;
- 10 - December 2016 Public Act 288 was passed;
- 11 - All Roads that are open to motor vehicles will be open for ORV's;
- 12 - On state game areas they have different land use rules
 - 13 o Does not address roads open to motor vehicles;
- 14 - January 18, 2017 the Public Act 288 will go into effect;
- 15 - Forest Roads that are open to motor vehicle usage will be open for ORV
- 16 travel;
- 17 - The intent of the Public Act 288 is to open roads to ORV usage;
- 18 - Forest roads may need to be visited to determine usage;
- 19 - Question – what about violations on Beaver Island, enforcement
 - 20 o Not a MDNR matter unless on State Forest roads
- 21 - Public comment will be open later this year.
- 22 - What about horses – not a two wheel drive vehicle;
- 23 - This law effects State Forest Lands
- 24 - Does the MDNR maintain the roads – no, MDNR is not in the maintenance
- 25 of roads;
- 26 - Will certain areas be closed to ORV usage, such as tribal areas;
- 27 - MDNR will have the authority to close roads with proper documentation
- 28 requesting a road closure;
- 29
- 30

31 William Parsons – LTBB Biologist updated on the work LTBB has been working on

32 the last year;

- 33 - High Island Piping Plover on the island
 - 34 o Continue to monitor Piping Plover
- 35 - Bald Eagle monitoring
 - 36 o Currently monitoring 38 nests
 - 37 o Transmitters are being put on chicks
 - 38 o Have 3 transmitters to be put on eagles this year;
- 39 - Lake Geneserath
 - 40 o Walleye Recruitment
 - 41 o 10 years of data – seems that stocking has the best numbers, there is
 - 42 some natural reproduction but stocking lakes seem to provide the best
 - 43 numbers;
 - 44 o Stated that Walleye are not native fish in Lake Geneserath;
 - 45 o Matt on the phone commented on stocking in Lake Geneserath;
 - 46 ▪ 2nd fishing tournaments
 - 47 ▪ Fishing tournaments are next weekend
 - 48 o Garden Island
 - 49 ▪ Visited the Open Dump, there is a large area that has been
 - 50 used as a dumping site;
 - 51 ▪ Question – who is responsible for the clean up.
 - 52 • No one is currently responsible for the dump;

- 1 ▪ Question – is this the big dump.
- 2 • No this dump site was discovered last year, MDNR had no
- 3 idea that this site was there.
- 4 ○ Insect Survey
- 5 ▪ Youth Conservation Corp along with LTBB Staff;
- 6 ▪ ORV trail through the wet land;
- 7 • Those tracks will be visible for years to come;
- 8 ○ Natural Community
- 9 ○ Archipelago Waterfowl Survey – aerial
- 10 ▪ The majority birds are Red Heads
- 11 ▪ Northwood Aviation is contracted for the aerial surveys;
- 12 Noah Jansen, LTBB Conservationist
- 13 - LTBB Youth Invasive Species survey
- 14 - Pulled knapweed on High Island
- 15 ○ All day only pulled maybe a half acre of the weed;
- 16 ○ Burned the plants that were pulled;
- 17 ▪ So that the seeds would not plant more of the weeds;
- 18 ○ Wildlife club this winter with Michigan Natural Features Inventory on
- 19 Beaver, Garden and High Islands;
- 20 ○ Circle of Flight grants;
- 21 - Grant to survey
- 22 ○ High Island
- 23 ○ Bald Eagle
- 24 ○ Rare Insects
- 25 ○ Question – Who is responsible for locating plants and where they are
- 26 located. Has anyone actually mapped the area for plant life.
- 27 ▪ Have a better understanding of the Rare plants vs the Invasive
- 28 Plants;
- 29 ▪ These surveys are not cheap, the last one cost over \$100,000.
- 30 ○ University of Minnesota what is LTBB connection with them.
- 31 ▪ University of Minnesota crew monitoring Piping Plover and
- 32 maintain a data base;
- 33

34 Break at 11:00 a.m.

35 Meeting reconvened at 11:12 a.m.

36

37 Pat Lederle called meeting back to order.

38

39 Spoke regarding the cemetery that it is private.

40

41 Jennifer Kleitch addressed Trails subcommittee

- 42 - Spoke with Ken Zick,
- 43 - Both are interested in developing a Trails subcommittee
- 44 ○ Is this something that this could be formed;
- 45 ○ 501 C1 grant was brought up;
- 46 ▪ Some township dollars may be available;
- 47 ○ Just wanted to bring the idea forward to the group;
- 48 ○ Concerns of another group applying for funding;
- 49 ○ Next meeting discuss the possibility of forming a subcommittee and
- 50 concerns that will be brought forward;
- 51 ○ Mastenbrook suggested for comments in regards to the trails;

- 1 ▪ Set a meeting date for just Trails, set a date in April, May to
- 2 discuss trails only;
- 3 ▪ Define trails
- 4 ▪ Trails that cross forest lands;
- 5 ○ Information will be sent to the Collaborative and ask for dates to hold
- 6 the meeting and get some discussion on the matter;
- 7 ○ April 27th there is a meeting scheduled for waterway trails;

8
9 Management Plan for State-Owned Lands on Northern Lake Michigan Islands will be
10 moved to the after lunch on the agenda.

11
12 Matt Preisser, MI of the Great Lakes, on the phone:

- 13 - Two major items
- 14 ○ Interest in creating a ? for the great lakes, starting on the Island;
- 15 ○ Notion of more coordination, there is more than 20 now and need to
- 16 form a collation for common Island concerns;

17 On the phone ?

- 18 - Applied for a grant and was not successful;
- 19 - Keeping habitat

20 Pat (island) – Wildlife group

21
22 Sean briefly talked on the shoreline

- 23 - Great Lakes initiative grant
- 24 - Early detection Japanese knotweed
- 25 - Reduce the barrier to bring in contractors
- 26 - Additional funding for CAKE
- 27 - Setting up an invasive species meeting
- 28 - \$14,000 still in the donation funds for *Phragmites*
- 29 - MDNR steering committee along with ?

30
31 Kevin Boil, Pam Grassmick – board of Beaver Island Institute, Great lakes islands
32 coalition

- 33 - Island institute Fellows Program
- 34 - Focus on communications - priority
- 35 - Master planning and effects on the Island
- 36 - Media on events happening on the Island
- 37 - Community awareness
- 38 - Communicate with the public
- 39 ○ What is off limits and what is allowed
- 40 - Promotion of the Islands
- 41 ○ Cross platform approach
- 42 ○ Broadcast, Podcasts, social media and island events
- 43 ○ Community Calendar
- 44 ○ Digital Signage system
- 45 ▪ Present a series of slides
- 46 ▪ Events
- 47 ▪ In the future have information on the ferries and airplanes.
- 48 ▪ Protect the environment, invasive species etc.
- 49 ○ Produce 6 articles a year for publications;
- 50 ○ Main goal to create a platform to be the hub.
- 51 - Island Collaborative
- 52 ○ Opportunity to take words and put them in effect;

- 1 ▪ Trail systems and their use
- 2 ▪ Dogs on leash
- 3 ▪ Public service announcements
- 4 ○ No one group can do this alone everyone needs to contribute;
- 5 ○ Signage on the Island and ports;
- 6 ○ Proper use of Cultural components
- 7 ○ Seek funding to celebrate Native Americans;
- 8 ○ Need to raise \$25,000 – so if groups can provide \$5 – 7000 that would
- 9 be great;
- 10 ○ Would like to know by application by March 1st
- 11 ○ Fellowship will be September 1st for the Island Institute;
- 12 ○ Will be working with school children;
- 13 ○ Radio is a non-profit station WVVI relies on donation only;
- 14 ▪ Question can information be accessed by computer;
- 15 • Most of the information is regarding events;

16

17 Warblers on the water –

- 18 - Eagle research;
- 19 - In the next week website will be up and running, and could Pam send a
- 20 promo to gov delivery to be placed on the website;

21

22 Wes Andrews, LTBB preservation

- 23 - Cultural resources on the islands
- 24 - Obtained a new server just for the data base
- 25 - Hiring a position to collaborate information
- 26 - GIS mapping of the islands
- 27 ○ Up and running later this year
- 28 ○ Archeological sites
- 29 ▪ Things that occur in historic documents;
- 30 ▪ Unknown;
- 31 ○ Cultural properties
- 32 ▪ Significance of material;
- 33 ▪ Identify each group;
- 34 ○ Long term goal
- 35 ▪ Have an overall management plan that will be for all of the
- 36 Islands;
- 37 ▪ Meeting with the state for a MOU for cultural resources, etc.
- 38 ○ Lack of manpower to work with the data;
- 39 ○ Identify grant opportunities;

40

40 Lee Boisvert – spoke with Wes

- 41 - Information about townships on the website would be appreciated;
- 42 - Important to keep the lands in pristine condition;
- 43 - Protecting the lands and water;
- 44 - Question regarding the cemetery on Garden Island is it marked properly
- 45 will you know you are on cemetery property;

46

47 Lunch at 12:15 p.m.

48 Meeting reconvened at 12:48 p.m.

49

50 Joshua Cohen MI Natural Features inventory MSU Extension

- 51 - Ecosystems on Beaver Island
- 52 - Natural disturbance

- 1 - Propose biodiversity stewardship Monitoring priorities
- 2 - Synthesize survey results – data base
- 3 - Reviewed a list of occurrences on High, Hog and Beaver Island;
- 4 - Ranking system – AB good, C lower on the scale;
- 5 - Mapping old growth area;
- 6 - Current status of the ecosystem;
- 7 - Beaver island has diversity ecosystem types;
- 8 - 15 of 21 natural communities –
- 9 - EO - element occurrence;
- 10 - Aerial photography;
- 11 - 3 factors
 - 12 ○ ground
 - 13 ○ landscape
 - 14 ○ size
- 15 - photographs of rare plants
- 16 - trees 120 years
- 17 - Little Sand Bay Boreal – State land
- 18 - Pointe La Par Dry-Mesic
 - 19 ○ Some deer browse;
- 20 - Highlights of the Island
 - 21 ○ Old growth, sugar maple and
 - 22 ○ Expand the boundary of the area;
- 23 - Martins Bluff Mesic Northern Forest
 - 24 ○ Old growth sugar maple over 250 years old;
 - 25 ○ Improved aerial photography;
 - 26 ○ Beach Bark disease and heavy deer browse;
- 27 - Dune systems
 - 28 ○ Compared to other dunes in the state they are doing very well
 - 29 especially for disease;
- 30 - McFadden Point
 - 31 ○ Invasive species and erosion from foot traffic;
 - 32 ○ Dune grass helps stabilize the dunes;
- 33 - Greene’s Lake Swamp
 - 34 ○ Cedar Swamp
 - 35 ▪ Doty’s Swamp impacted by Deer Browse pressure;
- 36 - Developed Stewardship Prioritization
 - 37 ○ Bio-rarity index
 - 38 ○ EO Rank
 - 39 ○ Threat score (using knowledge of general threats)
- 40 Questions – how to mitigate trees to come back in the future from beach
- 41 bark disease. Keith Kintigh - Will be a very long time to regenerate trees.
- 42 Question – what is the MDNR plans for deer browse. Jennifer said it is not
- 43 an isolated issue – occurs on mainland as well.
- 44 Question – what are the middle story. Joshua browse will have the
- 45 advantage, certain species leave the system.
- 46
- 47 LTBB GIS Mapping the Archipelago – Alan Proctor
 - 48 ▪ Work with Jim Keiser;
 - 49 ▪ ESRI software is used on a regular basis;
 - 50 ▪ Operates a Drone;
 - 51 ▪ Provide software and technical support;

- 1 ▪ Previewed maps that GIS has worked on for Charlevoix County, Beaver
2 Island;
3 ▪ Various questions regarding the programs that are utilized by the GIS
4 department.
5

6 Authorize a mapping committee and set a near deadline to complete a 1st draft map
7 of recommended reserve areas, or core wild areas, designated for light touch
8 management practices. Determine the information layers and people needed to
9 assemble and complete this task by the deadline.

- 10 ▪ Discussion from the group on mapping and graphs that could be of great use.
11 ▪ Conservation designations that do not apply to state game areas.
12 ▪ Asked for a motion to discuss mapping, critical dunes, and other game areas.
13 ▪ Need to get the ideas and values needed to accomplish the final draft.
14 ▪ Need to establish and define ideas and a set of goals.
15 ▪ Ecological goals,
16 ▪ Representation in all areas: Cultural, invasive species and mapping
17 capabilities are present.
18 ▪ Who is missing for the group, wetlands, biologist, cultural;
19

20 **Motion made by James ? and supported by Don Tritsch (on the Phone) to**
21 **convene a group to produce a draft land use map and incorporate values to**
22 **present to the collaborative for approval. Vote unanimous.**

23 **Motion Carried**

24
25 A landscape committee was formed and who beyond that committee needs to be
26 involved. Don recommended Joshua Cohen, Wes Andrews, Jennifer Kleitch, Keith
27 Kintigh, Erin Victory, be on the mapping committee. Suggested to set up a
28 mapping workshop and notify the collaborative of a meeting date.
29

30 Jennifer will contact the original group and contact to set a meeting date.
31

32 Wildlife habitat management, Beaver Island Wildlife Club

- 33 ▪ LTBB would like to have the Natural Resource Commission to review the
34 comments and discuss at the next meeting.
35 ▪ The comments and responses will be sent to the collaborative to review the
36 documents.
37

38 **Next proposed meeting date May 4, 2017 at 9:30 p.m. on Beaver Island,**
39 **MI.**

40
41 **Motion made by ? and supported by ? to adjourn at 2: 35 p.m.**

42 **Vote unanimous**

43 **Motion Carried**