

Great Lakes Islands Coalition
Conference Call Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2018

Attendance

Island Communities

- Beaver
- Bois Blanc - Tom
- Drummond – Lynn, Kristy
- Harsens - Harold
- Les Cheneaux
- Mackinac - Mike
- Madeline – Lisa, Glenn, Michael, Michael, Marina
- Manitoulin – Al, Jim, Josh, Joe, Alicia
- Middle Bass – Mike, Jean
- Neebish
- Pelee
- South Bass - Lisa
- Washington
- Other

Partner Organizations

- Island Institute - Kate
- Michigan Office of the Great Lakes – Matt, Erin
- Northland College - Brandon
- Wisconsin Coastal Management Program

Member Updates/News

- Madeline Island
 - New song released about the island! Listen here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=upr_52seNUo&list=RDupr_52seNUo&start_radio=1
 - Chef Expo: <http://madelineisland.chambermaster.com/events/details/28th-annual-chequamegon-chefs-exhibition-4466>
 - In-line Skate Marathon: <https://www.apostleislandsinline.com/>
- Middle Bass
 - Still recovering from damage from recent nor'easter storm
 - The Lake Erie Islands International Consortium recently held it's meeting on Pelee Island. This group brings together people from Kelleys Island, Pelee Island, and the Bass Islands (North, South, and Middle) to share ideas about environmental conservation and cultural preservation. The Great Lakes Islands Coalition was discussed. <http://leiiic.org/>
 - Mike provided some nice aerial photos he took on recent flights: <https://www.facebook.com/middlebass/> and <https://www.facebook.com/lakeerieislandsintlconsortium/>
- Manitoulin – the Island Showcases on website (<https://www.northland.edu/great-lakes-islands>) look great! The *Manitoulin Expositor* would like to run a series of articles about other islands based on those profiles.
- Northland College – Brandon reminded that there is still space for additional community profiles. Please contact him at bhofstedt@northland.edu.
- South Bass – their winery is adding additional acres on North Bass Island!

- Harsens – an article on the Great Lakes Islands Coalition will be added to their next community newsletter.
- Mackinac
 - Recently competed in a Michigan Rural Water Association contest, named “Best Tasting Water” in the State of Michigan. Congrats! <https://www.stignaceneews.com/articles/mackinac-island-has-best-tasting-water-in-michigan-according-to-taste-test/>
 - Added additional recycling stations at convenient locations around the island. Adopted uniform, internationally accepted color standards for composting (green), mixed recycling (blue) and landfill waste (black).

2018 Islands Summit

- General comments or questions, contact Lisa Potswald, administrator@townoflapointewi.gov
- Website is up and running, contains logistical details and registration: <https://www.northland.edu/great-lakes-islands>
- Agenda: Host committee is meeting tomorrow, putting final touches on first draft agenda, will post to website ASAP. Michael Collins provided broad overview. On Day 2, we will break into several topics, Housing, Economic Development, and Environment (water levels & sustainable energy) (look on website under Registration). This will allow people to move towards what interests them and start to discuss specifics on what activities to undertake. Agenda will need to move hand-in-hand with the draft Charter; a few items (if they move forward) may need time on the agenda, e.g., naming of a Board.
- Radio Interviews: they’d like to do some fun, informal interviews. Expect an email from Marina Lachecki (lighthouse@cheqnet.net) with a few seed questions about your island.
- Q&A
 - Q: status of funding to support participant travel?
A: still pending, awaiting response from a foundation. We are hopeful but this is uncertain. The status quo is like 2017/Beaver, where you pay for your own travel to the island, but once there will be offered lodging, meals, island transport, etc. To date, the Madeline Islanders & Northland College have done an amazing job to secure outside funding (\$13,000) and volunteers to help keep the costs down.
 - Q: where do we find info on additional lodging?
A: refer to the contact provided on the website (Ron Madich). (ed. note: the subsidized lodging offered - Madeline Island Chamber Music facility - is beautiful and on par, if not better, than the 2017 lodging! They hope to add some photos soon)
 - Q: for the \$25 registration fee, if we prefer to write a check, who is it written to?
A: make to “Northland College” and write “GLIC Summit” in the memo
 - Q: opportunities to carpool?
○ A: Mike suggested convening a bus from St. Ignace, MI; will start a discussion in Slack.
- **ACTION ITEM:** register as soon as you are able!

2019 Islands Summit

- The 2018 hosts would like to end the meeting with recognition of next year’s event (similar to what occurred in 2017 on Beaver Island). It is recommended that the incoming host team to sit down with the outgoing host team to trade notes and files (e.g., roles, timelines).
- Looking for a 2019 host! This is an amazing opportunity to take an important leadership role in our growing network, and show off your island in the process.
- **ACTION ITEM:** If you are interested, please contact Matt (PREISSERM@michigan.gov). He can discuss broad expectations and convene a call with the 2017 & 2018 hosts, if desired.

Preliminary Draft Charter

- As discussed previously, Matt reviewed a number of other organization's charters/strategic plans/ by-laws and drafted a full first draft charter, building off our previous discussions about a mission statement, vision, goals, etc. The goal is to have a finished product by the October Summit.
- Content:
 - Format: shooting for several pages of fairly generic/boilerplate stuff followed by one or more appendices which identify current individuals and organizations and roles. As the latter items will change over time, this would allow us to modify and swap out an appendix without having to revisit the main charter.
 - Major new components: proposing a Board; allowing for creation of subcommittees; defines roles and responsibilities; standardizes some terminology.
- Discussion
 - Several folks appreciated the work and level of detail, for example the roles and expectations for At-Large Members.
 - It should be shortened and made less dense. It is helpful to have something to edit and respond to (cutting down is easier than building up).
 - Some questions about the Board and who could be recipient of grant funds, etc.
 - Liked the idea of assigning revisions to a smaller group.
- Proposed process:
 - Everyone: please review and provide your input, either big picture or minute/specific. You can either email Matt or use the Slack site (which allows everyone to see your comments and build off them, debate, etc.)
 - **ACTION ITEM: Matt will create a spot on the Slack site.**
 - Matt proposed convening a smaller group of volunteers that would be willing to walk through and discuss in detail and help with the wordsmithing. Work would span June-July, we'd come back to full GLIC with report-out and revised version on August 1.
 - **ACTION ITEM: please contact Matt (PREISSERM@michigan.gov) if you'd like to participate on the Charter team.**

Island Institute Memberships

- As part of their new grant with the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes, the Institute is offering a membership to each island community participating in the GLIC. Kate Tagai outlined what membership brings, including subscriptions (print delivery) to *The Working Waterfront* newspaper and the annual glossy *Island Journal*. She asks that each island team contact her with a preferred address. Suggestions include your town hall, library, community center, or other local gathering place where they may be viewed by many people and help spur discussion.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Email Kate at ktagai@islandinstitute.org or contact her on Slack.**

Other Updates

- Great Lakes Islands Community Resource Directory – Erin Dixon has started her summer internship with the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes. She is a native Beaver Islander and will be a sophomore at Michigan State University in the fall. Her tasks include filling out the Directory for all the member islands, largely through internet searches. Heads-up, she may contact you with questions or seeking help to fill specific gaps. Please help her connect with other people in your community, where appropriate. Erin's goal is to have a full product ready for your review by the August 1 phone call. Erin's email is DixonE5@michigan.gov
- Webinars – we are still looking to create a webinar (free technical seminar over the web), but it is looking like July or August, not June as originally hoped.
- Recap 2018 National Working Waterfronts Conference – Kitty (Beaver), Kristy (Drummond), and Peter & Russ (South Bass) represented the Great Lakes well. They were joined by 3 Maine islanders and 2 from

the Chesapeake Bay (Maryland). Not surprisingly, many differences but also many similarities. Well received by the broad audience. Kristy reported learning a great deal and brought back some specific reports and ideas to her island. On the subject of the island/mainland connection or tether, there was some discussion on how some mainland terminus communities appear to view their islands as assets, while others seem to see them as liabilities. Another “rich field” to explore!

Next Call

- The first Wednesday of July will fall on a holiday, July 4 or Independence Day (U.S.). Matt suggested several options, including skipping July or trying to reschedule for a different day that month.
- Multiple members spoke up in favor of skipping, in light of July being the start of busy season for many of the island communities.
- Decision: SKIP JULY for the full group call. (the smaller Charter review team will use the time to work on the Charter).
- The next group call will be **Wednesday, August 1, 10-11am eastern**.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Preisser
Michigan Office of the Great Lakes
6/6/18