



US 23 Heritage Route
Management Council Meeting
 April 28, 2016 at 2:00 pm
 Alpena City Hall

MINUTES

Present:

Karen Sanderson, Anne Belanger, Patty O’Donnell, Steve Schnell, Bev Bodem, Mary Ellen Jones, Dave Wentworth, Adam Poll, Kevin Schaedig, Larry Clark, Blake Gingrich, Greg Sundin, Diane Murray and Denise Cline.

Anne Belanger called meeting to order at 2 pm.

Motion by Dave Wentworth to approve the agenda with the addition of “elect a new chair”. Seconded by Karen Sanderson. Motion carried.

Greg Sundin noted that he should not be listed as a voting member.

Motion by Adam Poll to approve the minutes from March 4, 2015. Seconded by Karen Sanderson. Motion carried.

Membership:

Mary Ellen Jones nominated Adam Poll as the new Chair of the Management Council. Adam Poll nominated Mary Ellen Jones as the new Vice-Chair. Dave Wentworth moved the nominations be closed.

Motion by Anne Belanger to appoint Larry Clark to the seat for the South Bay Corridor. Seconded by Adam Poll. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Wentworth to appoint Pat Pokorski to the seat for NRTH. Seconded by Anne Belanger. Motion carried.

Motion by Dave Wentworth to appoint Mary Beth Stutzman to the seat for CVB/Chamber. Seconded by Larry Clark. Motion carried.

It was noted that the second Presque Isle County seat has been vacant for some time. It was suggested that Shannon McKinstry be contacted to fill that seat. It was noted that Jeff Czymbor is no longer part of Modern Craft Winery and has vacated his seat on the Council.

Motion by Mary Ellen Jones to appoint Sharee Koenig from Lost Lake Woods Club (Alcona County) to the vacant private tourism seat. Seconded by Helen Pasakarnis. Motion carried.

Winter Tourism:

Denise Cline played a cut of the winter tourism video for the Council. Color correction is not yet complete. The Council discussed tasks yet to be complete on the Winter Tourism promotional package – including winter activities map and winter tour on the website.

Lake Huron Discovery Tour:

Mary Ellen updated the group on the tour planned for October 7-10, 2016. The Discovery Tour committee has been working on getting funding raised and getting the word out through a call to action. Businesses and

Voting Members:

1. Sue Stein (Arenac County)
2. *Vacant (Arenac County)*
3. Dave Wentworth (Iosco County)
4. D. Jay O’Farrell (Iosco County)
5. Marlana MacNeill (Alcona County)
6. Karen Sanderson (Alcona County)
7. Greg Sundin (Alpena County)
8. Ken Gauthier (Alpena County)
9. Anne Belanger (Presque Isle County)
10. *Vacant (Presque Isle County)*
11. Steve Schnell (Cheboygan County)
12. *Vacant (Cheboygan County)*
13. Heidi Dewald (Private Tourism Rep)
14. Sharee Koenig (Private Tourism Rep)
15. Sarah Waters (TBNMS)
16. Belle Flora (Sunrise Coastal Coalition)
17. Patty O’Donnell (MDOT)
18. Don Seal (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe)
19. Mary Ellen Jones (MACNE)
20. Pat Pokorski (NRTH Committee)
21. Mary Beth Stutzman (CVB)
22. Larry Clark (South Bay Corridor)

Non-Voting Members (Ex-Officio):

1. Vacant (US Forest Service)
2. Blake Gingrich (Michigan DNR)
3. Brandon Schroeder (Michigan Sea Grant)

Alternates for voting members

1. Jim Klarich (Alpena County)
2. Rich Sullenger (Alpena County)
3. Helen Pasakarnis (Iosco County)
4. Frank Cloutier (Saginaw Chippewa Tribe)
5. Pat Shiflet (Sunrise Coastal Coalition)
6. Doug Wilson (MDOT)
7. Stephanie Gandulla (TBNMS)

communities up and down the coast are encouraged to plan events and add them to the special events calendar that has been created for this on the US 23 site. The committee is also looking for business sponsors to participate – a discussion occurred about individual partners and contributions received thus far. Races are also being planned. A writer's event at Lost Lake Woods Club is also on the schedule. Involvement from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe is expected again this year. Karen noted that Ken Yarsevich needs to be informed of the activities this year. Denise noted that visitors want maps of the tour. Larry Clark discussed the South Bay 5K. Karen noted that Harrisville State Park will do a Halloween event.

FY 17:

The group discussed focusing efforts within the next fiscal year on the development of a plan for a trail connecting north along the coast from Oscoda.

Updates:

MDOT: Kevin updated the group on road projects and the Alpena to Hillman Trail. Patty discussed the annual MDOT public input session scheduled for May 26 from 5-7 at the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

DNR: Blake Gingrich updated the group:

- State Forest Campgrounds now called "Rustic Campgrounds".
- X-Terra at Rockport.
- Trails

Heritage Coast Sailing & Rowing: Dave updated the group:

- Three boats in early May
- June 4 regatta – market nationally
- Class – May 21 and 28
- Alabaster Multi-Use Trail & Arboretum – 200-300 trees marked and identified

Iosco County:

- Dock will be fixed – three-year improvement program.

Alpena County:

- New restaurants and new Holiday Inn
- Drawbridge work
- Downtown – Alpena Power Building – tearing down

Cheboygan County:

- Coast Guard Cutter – new being built – Cheboygan/Mackinaw vying to be the location.
- Executive Directors at all three chambers – new
- Re-forming County EDC
- Bird watching – Mackinaw City

Presque Isle County:

- Anne – MCACA application

South Bay Corridor: Larry Clark updated the group:

- Study – MSU students; preliminary design work; study by Beckett & Raeder
- Meeting May 4 at Alpena Mall – to present findings.
- Alpena County Market Assessment

*Motion by Larry Clark to adjourn. Seconded by Mary Ellen Jones. Motion carried.
Submitted by Denise Cline*