**Meeting January 16, 2018**

Present: Commissioners

Amy Berglund, at-large

Karin Cooper, Houghton County

Dave Geisler, Village of Calumet

Bob Langseth, Calumet Township

Larry Lankton, at-large

Scott MacInnes, State of Michigan

John Sullivan, Franklin and Quincy Townships

Absent: None

Present: Executive Director

Scott See

Present: National Park Service

Wendy Davis, Superintendent

Present: Recording Secretary

John Arnold

Present: Guests

Judy Albee

Steve Albee

Glenda Bierman, Quincy Mine Hoist Association

Lindsay Hiltunen, Archivist, Michigan Tech Archives

Karen Hintz, Vice President, Keweenaw County Historical Society

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission was called

to order at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at the Keweenaw NHP Headquarters in

Calumet, Michigan.

John Sullivan was asked by Bob Langesth to say a few words in memoriam of Bob Pieti, a

longtime area resident who was instrumental to the creation of the park.

**Approval of Minutes of November 7, 2017**

Moved by Karin Cooper and seconded by Amy Berglund to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously. (7/0).

**Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Scott See reported on how the goals of the Advisory Commission were

supported during the quarter.

**Advise the National Park Service at Keweenaw National Historical Park on park planning,**

**preservation, interpretation, and operational matters.**

See reminded the assembled that the draft document of the Quincy Mining Company National

Historic Landmark (NHL) Amendment has been sent to Washington for review by the Advisory

Board review, and it is not presently known when the review will take place. In the meantime,

discussions regarding a Calumet NHL Amendment have begun. It is anticipated that this will

also be a two-year project.

**Develop the Keweenaw Heritage Sites Program into a consortium of fully sustainable sites.**

See reported he will be soon sending the annual visitation questionnaire to Heritage Sites, and

will be able to report on the results at the next Advisory Commission meeting. See also offered

the sad news of two recent losses in the Heritage Site family. Paul Freshwater, long-time board

member of the Keweenaw County Historical Society, and editor of the Superior Signal

newsletter, passed away in December, and Laura Miller’s daughter, Billie Rae Miller, passed

away on New Year’s Day. See extended sincere condolences from everyone at the park to the

families and friends of Paul and Billie Rae.

**Develop partnerships that provide visitors with a cohesive, accessible, and engaging**

**national park experience along the entire length of the Keweenaw.**

See noted that there are no active projects at the Quincy Smelter site until spring, when there is a

roof replacement planned for the Smelter Office Building, to be followed by lead-based paint

abatement. See also reported that he, Superintendent Davis, and NPS staff are working to

provide input to Village of Calumet Planning Commission on the Draft Master Plan for the

which has recently been released for review.

**Promote a historic preservation ethic and emphasize heritage awareness.**

The 2018 Keweenaw Heritage Grant Program will be announced later this month, and again this

year up to $150,000 will be available for grants to organizations and municipalities that are

helping to preserve and interpret the story of copper. Applications will be due April 6th.

Also, in late November See attended a graduate Industrial Archaeology class at Michigan Tech

to participate in a conversation about National Heritage Areas and share how KNHP’s unique

management model operates.

**Develop the Commission into a sustainable operating organization.**

See noted that he and Superintendent Davis met with State Representative Scott Dianda and Jay

Gage, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow’s new Upper Peninsula representative, and spent about an

hour with them discussing the park and its operation.

See also reported that there are two Commissioners nearing or at the end of their current

appointments. John Sullivan’s appointment expired last April, and Franklin and Quincy

Townships have been notified of the need to act on the expired appointment. In addition, Bob

Langseth’s appointment expires later this month. As this is the fourth term for Commissioner

Langseth, he is limited from seeking another term. See has informed Calumet Township’s

Supervisor Paul Lehto that the township board needs to provide the park with nominations to

replace Bob. Per legislation, both commissioners are free to continue to serve until they are reappointed or replaced.

**Commission Committees and Projects**

**Announcements / Executive**

None.

**Budget / Finance**

John Sullivan reported that the Commission has reviewed the financial statements and quarterly

bills, from November 8, 2017 to January 16, 2018.

Moved by Sullivan and seconded by Cooper to approve bills in the amount of $14,607.66, plus

wages and tax payments of $10,660.62 for $25,258.28 total. Motion carried unanimously.

(7/0).

**Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Wendy Davis provided an overview of recent news and summaries of key

accomplishments of the various park divisions.

Davis reported that in addition to the daily work of managing the park, which is funded by a base

budget, the annual application process for funding targeted projects has been completed and the

proposals are in review for receipt of these project funds.

Upcoming projects include ongoing work on the historic landscape at the Quincy Mining office,

a planned 3-year joint project with Isle Royale National Park to conduct an archeological survey

of federally-owned property within the parks, and rehabilitation of the Calumet & Hecla

Warehouse No.1, with planning slated to begin in 2019 and an anticipated project start in 2021.

Funding has been received for several interpretative projects, including a new “Junior Ranger”

book and community youth programs. Davis noted that the park has received for the third

consecutive year funding from the National Park Foundation for the very successful “Copper

TRACES” program that brings hundreds of children to the park to learn from the Heritage Sites,

area communities, and the park itself about the history of the Copper Country.

The park is also shortly to reinstate “Unit Meetings” to engage both the Calumet and Quincy

units of the park and interested area stakeholders in active conversation to ensure that all

concerns and interests are heard, not solely those of the National Park Service.

Finally, the annual High School Local History Smackdown is scheduled for April 26th at the

Calumet Theatre.

**Other reports from Commissioners**

Commissioner MacInnes reported that he has been part of an advisory group developing a blight

enforcement ordinance for the Village of Calumet, and that it is anticipated to be ready by spring.

Commissioner Lankton related his role in a teacher training workshop at the Quincy Mine, the

very historical site that first drew him to the Copper Country forty years ago.

Commissioner Sullivan noted that the Quincy Mine Hoist Association has two upcoming

projects: the replacement of 850 wooden ties on the cog rail tram, made possible by a $15,000

Heritage Grant and a $200,000 loan from USDA Rural Development, and the addition of new

roof bolting to the adit to supplement those put in place in the 1970s.

Commissioner Geisler reported that the Village Council has authorized the launch of the official

village website, http://villageofcalumet.com/

**Comments from Legislators or Legislative Staff**

Nothing to report.

**Comments from Keweenaw Heritage Site Representatives**

Karen Hintz, Vice President of Keweenaw County Historical Society (KCHS) echoed See’s

earlier sentiments regarding the passing of Paul Freshwater, and reported that his legacy will

continue with a new issue of The Superior Signal slated for release in the spring. Hintz

additionally reported on a few projects underway, notably the restoration of the surf boat which it

is anticipated will be completed within a year, the upcoming season of the annual Adventures in

History programming, and involvement in this year’s Copper Traces event. Other work includes

the development of new interpretive exhibits at the Maritime Museum (the foghorn building),

and restoration of a home at Central, in addition to a new artist-in-residence program. Finally, the

pilot house of the S.S. Tioga is being installed in Eagle River near the entrance to the museum.

Lindsay Hiltunen, University Archivist at the Michigan Technological University Archives and

Historical Collections, reported on recent developments and activities at the archives. Former

Executive Director of the J.R. Van Pelt and Opie Library Ellen Marks retired at the end of last

year, and Jill Hodges, former director of institutional equity is currently filling that role as

interim director. Current archivist and metadata librarian Emily Riipa will be presenting a paper

at the Midwest Archives Conference in Chicago, and Hiltunen will be presenting a paper at the

National Council on Public History on the Archives’ oral history initiatives, including the recent

“Mine Memories” project, funded by a Heritage Grant. Finally, Hiltunen reported that she has

been appointed to the Michigan Oral History Network board, the first time in over a decade that

there has been a U.P. representative on the board.

**Comments from the Public**

None.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Moved to adjourn by Sullivan, and seconded by Lankton at 1:50 p.m. Motion carried

unanimously. (7/0).

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, April 17, 2018.