



Meeting

January 14, 2014

- Present: Commissioners
Stephen Albee, At-Large
Kim Hoagland, At-Large
Allan Johnson, State of Michigan
John Sullivan, Franklin and Quincy Townships
Sue Dana, Village of Calumet
Ed Jenich, Houghton County Board of Commissioners
Bob Langseth, Calumet Township
- Present: Executive Director
Scott See
- Present: Keweenaw National Historical Park
Mike Pflaum, Superintendent
Brian Hoduski, Chief of Museum Services
Tom Baker, Management Assistant
- Present: Recording Secretary
Emily Fox
- Present: Guests
Kurt Hauglie, Daily Mining Gazette
Jean Pemberton, Copper Range Historical Society
Kristine Bradof, IRKPA
Mary Hunt, Community Member
Judy Albee, Community Member
Dave Geisler, Village of Calumet
Paul Lehto, Calumet Township

Art Limback, Calumet Theatre
Virginia Jamison, Keweenaw County Historical Society
Ed Sheridan, IRKPA
Liz Sheridan, NPLSF
Amy Berglund, Senator Carl Levin's Office

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission was called at 9:01 a.m., January 14, 2014, at the Keweenaw NHP headquarters in Calumet, Michigan.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Stephen Albee and seconded by Ed Jenich to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously. (7/0)

Approval of Minutes of October 25, 2013

Approval of the minutes as presented was moved by John Sullivan and seconded by Allan Johnson. **Motion Carried Unanimously. (7/0)**

Executive Director's Report

Advising the National Park Service at Keweenaw National Historical Park on park planning, preservation, interpretation, and operational matters

See reported that the NPS Staff is in the midst of their annual Service-wide Comprehensive Call where they make project requests for future years. See and several Commissioners will be attending the park prioritization meeting next week to participate in the discussion.

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

See reported that the Heritage Site meeting was held on November 18th. This was later than usual, largely due to the government shutdown. The meeting is typically held in early October. Sixteen of our twenty-one sites attend, including our two new sites, the Carnegie Museum and the Michigan Tech Archives. Unlike most meetings, we dedicated this meeting to information sharing and networking amongst the Sites. See heard from several representatives that they

really enjoyed being able to share ideas with each other and that we should have more meetings like this in the future.

Develop partnerships that provide visitors with a cohesive, accessible, and engaging national park experience along the entire length of the Keweenaw

See reported that the Quincy Smelter occupied the majority of his time during the quarter. He and Commissioner Sullivan have raised \$85,000 in pledges and donations. While they didn't reach their goal of raising \$100,000 by the end of the year, they still have a number of requests out, including one grant application, which should get us to our goal very soon.

See reported that he was able to form a real estate deal with the Michigan Department of Transportation. MDOT offered to purchase several property easements from Franklin Township in order to prepare for their M-26 realignment project slated for this coming summer. Because of the option agreement that we have in place with Franklin Township, the value of these easements is being put into the agreement. The end result of this is that the Commission, with a little extra fundraising, should be able to close on the smelter purchase by early summer. See thanked attorney, Jim Tercha, for his invaluable help during the process with MDOT and the township.

See explained that he and Superintendent Pflaum traveled to the regional office of the park service in Omaha in December to discuss the future possibilities at the smelter for both Keweenaw National Historical Park and Isle Royale National Park. As See mentioned in the October, 2013 meeting, it's great to see the amount of time and effort coming from the regional office dedicated to the smelter. During the quarter See also participated in meetings regarding the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment work for the site, and Houghton County Emergency Bridge discussions about using the smelter site in the event that the Portage Lake Lift Bridge is out of service.

In other news, See reported that the smelter delisting event was held on November 6th. See mentioned again that as of October 15th the smelter is no longer a Superfund site. There were about 45 attendees who enjoyed appetizers and a short program with comments from local PAC Member Dan Lorenzetti, Superintendent Pflaum, EPA Regional Administrator Susan Hedman, and Senator Levin (by video conference). See thanked Amy Berglund for assistance, Tom Baker for helping with the printed materials, Cody Dirrigle for helping with the IT setup, and Moyle Construction and Steve DeLong for helping light up the cupola furnace building for the evening.

See reported that he attended a meeting in November to discuss the stamp sand remediation project planned for the Cliff Mine property this summer. Other attendees included representatives from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District, the National Resources Conservation Service, Michigan Tech, and the Keweenaw Country Historical Society. The group reviewed a 25% engineering design for the remediation work, and See believes, made great progress in trying to meet the needs of

the environmental work while also being sensitive to the historic resources and landscapes at the Cliff Mine.

Promote a historic preservation ethic and emphasize heritage awareness

See announced that they are opening the 2014 Heritage Grant Program this week, and that they will have up to \$100,000 to distribute in grant funds this year. The deadline for submitting applications will be April 1st, with notification by May 1st, and funds available by June 1st. Applications will be available online at the park's website or you can get a hardcopy by stopping the park headquarters in Calumet. The NPS and Commission are very pleased with the work accomplished by prior grantees, and are excited to be able to offer this program again this year.

Develop the Commission into a sustainable operating organization

As See mentioned in the October 2013 meeting, it is unclear what federal funding will be received in FY14. \$132,500 was received from the NPS at the end of last year with the understanding that the Commission may not receive any funding this year. See says that when he traveled to Omaha in December, however, the regional office left the possibility open that there might be some year-end funding in a manner similar to last year.

Finally, See announced Emily Fox as the new recording secretary.

As always, See made sure that the Commission's quarterly tax forms were filed and all bills were paid.

Discussion Following Executive Directors Report

Robert Langseth commented about the possibility of the Lift Bridge being stuck in the raised position.

See agreed that it was necessary to make a plan in the event that something would happen to the lift bridge.

Commission Committees and Projects

Announcements/ Executive

No significant activity during this quarter.

Budget/ Finance

Moved by Sue Dana, seconded by Robert Langseth to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$21,558.16.

Development

Executive Director See reported that we are waiting on a final payment from MDOT in roughly the amount of \$23,000.

Partnerships

No significant activity during this quarter.

Preservation- Stewardship

Moved by Sue Dana seconded by Ed Jenich to approve the amendment to the option agreement with Franklin Township for the purchase of the smelter site. **Motion Carried Unanimously (7/0)**

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mike Pflaum began by welcoming all in attendance and thanking all attendees for their interest.

Pflaum thanked the Commission for the effort with the smelter with a special thanks to Executive Director Scott See and Commissioner John Sullivan.

Pflaum reported that Quincy-Franklin Township Commissioner John Sullivan's term will end in March. Sullivan will be eligible for reappointment. In addition, the terms of Al Johnson with the State of Michigan and Bob Langseth, representative of the Calumet Township will end in April. Both are eligible for reappointment.

In regard to strategic planning, Superintendent Pflaum reported that Tom Baker, Scott See, and he have found a strategic planning opportunity for the park. As part of this opportunity, they must complete with a park planning document called a foundation statement. This was set to take place in 2016 but will likely be moved to fiscal year 2014, and could start as early as October 2014. This opportunity will be great for Commissioners, staff and stakeholders to strategically prioritize resources at risk and to plan how to use those resources to accomplish tasks. Superintendent Pflaum thanked the Commissioners for assisting with the planning effort.

Superintendent Pflaum explained that finalizing the Business Plan from last year got off to a slow start as a result of the government shutdown and some contracting issues, but is now ready to go to the printer for a final review copy. Pflaum said that a final copy will be complete within a month.

In regards to the 100 year anniversary of the Italian Hall tragedy, Superintendent Pflaum thanked Tom Baker, Commissioner Sue Dana, Dave Geisler, The Village of Calumet, Calumet Township, Paul Lehto, CLK Rotary, and Main Street Calumet for their effort and participation. Pflaum reported that despite the cold weather, several hundred people were in attendance for the ceremony.

Superintendent Pflaum thanked Tom Baker for his work with the Ontonagon County Historical Society to acquire the Ontonagon County West Harbor Breakwater Light. Pflaum is pleased to have acquired this as a historical resource.

In regards to the Feasibility Reuse Study for the Quincy Smelter, Superintendent Pflaum thanked landscape architect Steve DeLong for his skills and a significant amount of time spent in the last months developing the concept. In December, the team presented an early version of the plan to the regional office staff. Pflaum and See were able to attend the meeting in person while Tom Baker and Steve DeLong were able to attend by phone. The proposal generated a lot of discussion and received general support from Regional Director Reynolds and Deputy Regional Director Trap.

Superintendent Pflaum announced that the charter behind the effort to produce a multi-park collections center had been signed by superintendents at Keweenaw, Pictured Rocks, Apostle Islands, and Isle Royale. The charter is now on its way to be signed by the Regional Director. Pflaum thanked Brian Hoduski for his work on the proposal. Sue Dana asked what the next step will be. Pflaum explained that after the charter is signed there will be discussions about what the next steps will be. Pflaum speculated that the Pictured Rocks collection will likely be moved to Isle Royale and that due to a lack of funding there will be no new construction or employees as a result of this project for the time being.

Pflaum thanks Brian Hoduski, Valerie Newman, Kathleen Harter, Jeremiah Mason, and all staff involved for being a part of the museum exhibit workshop in November. The workshop was a follow up to a workshop from a year ago. The group will be meeting monthly to act as a support group for new exhibit efforts in the community.

Superintendent Pflaum announced that the annual Service-wide Comprehensive Call will be held January 24th. Pflaum explained that this call is an opportunity for the park service to put in requests for future projects. Pflaum thanked John Rosemurgy for coordinating the effort, and the Commission for their review and support.

Pflaum announced the annual Smackdown will be held on April 24th at the Calumet Theatre. This event is free and open to the public. Pflaum feels that this is a great event and encourages all to attend. Pflaum thanked Brian Hoduski and the Commission for their fundraising and involvement.

Pflaum announced a new event, Park Break; this event is sponsored by the George Wright Foundation. The event will allow 8 graduate students to spend a week at Keweenaw National Historical Park with a main focus on archeology and Native American resources. Pflaum thanked Brian and Jo for their involvement.

Superintendent Pflaum reported that the current Calumet Visitor Center days and hours of operation are Friday and Saturday from 9:00am – 5:00pm. This schedule will be maintained until late April.

Pflaum reported that Project SISU will wrap up with the Youth Activity Map being printed and available for distribution in late January at the following locations: local tourism offices, Heritage Sites, and park facilities. Project SISU was very well received with all of the youth involved asking for the project to continue again this year. While the participant group was small (9), school social worker Darlene Dahl felt the program was very successful, Dahl felt it had a positive impact on participants and is interested in continuing to partner with the park in the future. Pflaum thanked the Advisory Commission and Scott See for their full support of this program. Pflaum also thanked Tara for working as the Events Ranger and also being the lead for the Project SISU program. Finally, Pflaum thanked the Advisory Commission for a grant of \$14,000 to support the project.

Work on the Podcast/multi-media project is underway with one podcast almost completed and two more in the works. These podcasts are an excellent way for people to learn about the park and help bring the park into the classroom as many educators can use these videos in their lessons. Pflaum thanked Kathleen Harter for her work on these podcasts and looks forward to further podcasts.

Kathleen Harter has begun planning for the Park-wide Keweenaw Heritage Sites Interpretive Plan with a conversation with Harpers Ferry Center. Pflaum said that they will have to determine the best course of action for getting the work done over the next three years. This project is funded through the Recreational Fee fund source.

Superintendent Pflaum thanked John Rosemurgy for working with the Historic District Commission to search for a new coordinator

Superintendent Pflaum thanked Kathleen Harter for helping with the planning for the week-long Labor and Immigration History teacher workshop which began in December. This workshop will be done in collaboration with the Copper Country Intermediate School District. The workshop is scheduled for July 27 – August 2, 2014.

The National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation will have a conference call in February. Pflaum plans participate in this call and thanked the group for its continued support.

In budget news, Congress passed a budget in early December and has been working on the details since. Pflaum said that it seems that the budget for the national parks may be better than anticipated. Since the new Fiscal Year began October 1st, the park has been conservative and will continue to be conservative while continuing to maximize resources.

Lastly, Pflaum announced that this will be his last meeting as official Superintendent as he has accepted a position as Superintendent at Pictured Rocks National Park and will begin there on January 26th. Pflaum reports that he has been asked by the regional director to manage both parks until a new superintendent is secured. For now he will split time between the two parks and does not foresee a lapse in communication. Sue Dana thanked Pflaum for being the superintendent for 3 years. Pflaum thanked all and wishes the best for the park.

Discussion Following Superintendent's Report

Bob Langseth asked what will be expected from the Heritage Center for the newspaper. Pflaum responded that the map will need to be redone and he anticipated a report from Scott See or Kim Hoagland.

Langseth asked if the museum would be open during The Copper Dog 150. Pflaum responded by saying yes, there was a good turnout last year during the event.

Tom Baker expressed concern about the snow bank on 5th Street near Kissell, Baker said that the snow bank makes it difficult for people to get to the heritage center. Sue Dana said that she will look at the issue and someone may need to talk to Kissell.

Other Reports From Commissioners

Commissioner Bob Langseth announced the 20th Anniversary of the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St Anne's. There will be celebratory events June 14th- 16th

Commissioner Sue Dana began by discussing the Villages' long road to gaining certified local government status. Dana thanked John Rosemurgy for his effort. Dana announces that HDC has hired John Arnold as their new Coordinator. Dana discussed the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Hall tragedy and thanked many people for their contributions; Steve Kello, superintendent of Public Works for cleaning the site, Paul Lehto who made arrangements for bells to be rung at St Anne's during the reading of the names, Jeremiah for planning and singing, Craig Bachelor at

Bill's Electric, Reverends Jess and Laura Eaton, Tom Baker for planning and posters, and Dave Geisler for adding meaning to the ceremony.

Commissioner Ed Jenich thanked all involved with the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Hall Tragedy. Jenich will be soliciting for ads and sponsorship to fund the Smackdown event. He will also be reaching out to local school as an effort to raise attendance.

Commissioner John Sullivan announced the Quincy Mine Hoist Association will be doing \$187,000 in concrete repairs for safety purposes. Rural Development will provide the loan funds as a 30 year loan at 3.25% interest. Rural Development will also be able to refinance other loans at 3.25%. In other news, the Copper Country Firefighters History Museum now has the financial resources to complete some drywall and electrical work. Also, as a result of the Heritage Grant Project, the inventory and cataloging of all artifacts at the fire hall was completed by a MTU student. Sullivan plans to meet with and receive a report from this student.

Comments from Legislators or Legislative Staff

Amy Berglund began by stating that a budget agreement has been reached and will be voted on by the House January 15th, and voted on by the Senate Friday. If the budget passes, we should expect to have a budget by early next week. Amy said that she is unsure of the details.

Berglund shares that she and Sen. Levin have been working on the delisting of the Quincy Smelter as a superfund site for several years and they are both pleased that it is no longer a Superfund site.

Sen. Levin offered a congressional records statement in regards to the 100th anniversary of the Italian Hall Tragedy. Amy Berglund said that she will have a copy for the Advisory Commission.

Commissioner Dana thanked Amy and asked her to thank Sen. Levin.

Commissioner Langseth asked her to keep the Commission funding in mind. Amy Berglund assured the Commission that she will keep it in mind.

Comments from Keweenaw Heritage Site Representatives

Art Limback announced that Bob Posey had replaced the door locks on the Calumet Theatre. The doors had been painted over many times making the restoration more difficult. Posey took pictures of his the project. Art Limback said that he plans to send Commission Dana a PDF File

containing the pictures. The Movie Memory Board project is now complete and there will be an open house to showcase the progress that has been made on the Theatre sometime in February. Thanks to a \$17,000 grant from MCA, two part time employees will be hired.

Art Limback reported that all performances through June are now booked; Feb 9th will be Meet the Beatles, March 20th The Titan Terror, a Celtic group, April 12th Atomic Punks, a Van Halen tribute, May 12th Arlo Guthrie, and June 20th Credence Clearwater Revival. Summer Movie Magic will begin June 26th at 3PM and will continue throughout the winter due to a \$3,000 grant from the Keweenaw Community Foundation Committee.

Comments from Public

Paul Lehto reported that many of the buildings in the Calumet industrial landscape are in need of repairs. Several buildings need roofs, windows, and doors. Mr. Lehto feels that these buildings have historic value and should be included in the future projects. Commissioner Dana asked Superintendent Pflaum if the buildings would qualify for funding through PMIS. Pflaum explains that the majority of funds available are for National Park Service owned facilities and resources. There may be other funding opportunities but resources are limited. Superintendent Pflaum and Executive Director See agreed that the industrial landscape has historic value. See said that he would like to work on a list of the top properties and resources that the park would be interested in preserving or acquiring due to their historical importance. Commissioner Dana asks See if there are any proposals regarding this issue on the table. As of now, See does not know of any requests in for the stabilization of township buildings.

Mr. Lehto reported that he and Jeremiah have been working a display for Red Jacket Shaft. This project is partially funded by the Advisory Commission. In return for the funding provided, 3 bays at the Calumet Coliseum garage are being rented to the Advisory Commission at the cost of \$1 per year.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved by Allan Johnson and seconded by Sue Dana to Adjourn. **Motion Carried Unanimously. (7/0)**

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 15th, 2014