

**Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
Advisory Council**

- May 6, 2008 Meeting Minutes-

Date: May 6, 2008

Time: 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Location: Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center, 500 W. Fletcher Street, Alpena, MI

MEETING ATTENDEES

NOAA: Cathy Green, Russ Green, Tera Panknin, Jean Prevo, Mary Beth Stutzman

State of Michigan: None.

SAC Members: Carol Shafto, Kim Wallis-Burke, Bill Estlack, Don Beem, Carl Bourdelais, Lynda VanDusen, Steve Kroll, Olin Joynton, Kathleen Hubbard, Ed Retherford, Joe Sobczak

SAC Alternates: Shari Davis, Kenneth Gauthier, Art Gillespie, David Dekett, Jerry Meek, Chuck Weisen, Vera Kavanaugh

Ex-officio Member: None.

Public: Immanuel Lutheran ROV Team

Media: None.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Steve Kroll welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Russ Green announced that Jeff is in Washington, DC at a Senate hearing today testifying regarding sanctuary expansion. Jeff's testimony went very well. Senator Levin was also at the hearing and is pushing to get the expansion passed.

Approve February 19th SAC Meeting Minutes. Chuck Weisen motioned to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2008 meeting. Lynda VanDusen seconded the motion, and the minutes were passed.

ROV Team Presentation - Immanuel Lutheran - Art Hoch and Brian Dort, Mentors

Twelve teams competed at the 2008 Regional MATE ROV Competition held at Alpena High School. The winning team was Immanuel Lutheran and they will travel to San Diego for the international competition in June. The Immanuel Lutheran ROV Team and mentors gave a short presentation about their ROV and their fundraising efforts.

Mayor Carol Shafto announced that she is proclaiming May 31st as ROV Day in Alpena.

SANCTUARY UPDATE:

The tall ship *Appledore V* will be here the week of May 6 and will be doing some education programs with area schools.

May Events:

Social Studies Enrichment Day - May 21 4th graders at Jesse Besser Museum
May 24th - Bus Bash - bus tour operators visiting

Fieldwork:

On June 21, Thunder Bay NMS is hosting an National Archaeology Society course, to teach divers how to do archaeology. This course is open to the public, contact Wayne if you are interested.

Russ said staff will be working on a mapping project, the wreck to be surveyed has not been chosen yet.

Steve Ruberg from the Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab, received a grant to continue his sinkhole study in the sanctuary. He will be here throughout the summer and may give a presentation on his fieldwork at the next meeting.

In August, staff from the University of Michigan will be working in the sanctuary using an AUV, which is like an ROV only it is not attached to a tether. They will be looking for more possible wreck sites. Cathy will be conducting a live dive program in conjunction with this project.

In August, sanctuary staff along with University of Rhode Island staff will be conducting a side scan sonar survey. They will be out on the water for two weeks straight surveying the area within the proposed boundary expansion. The team is hoping to cover 50-60 square miles.

In September, sanctuary staff plan to work with diver Stan Stock who found the wreck of the *Kyle Spangler*. They will be working together to document and map the shipwreck site. This project is a good example of how the sanctuary is trying to bridge the gap between divers and the sanctuary.

Mooring buoys are being put in this week and will be removed at the end of September.

Maritime Festival. July 4, 10:00am - 6:00pm. We are looking for volunteers for two-hour time blocks. Please contact Tera to sign up.

Management Plan Review. The first draft of the draft management plan review is done. Sanctuary staff are still working on completing the sanctuary operations plan and the budget and timeline sections. The draft will be submitted to sanctuary headquarters for review, come back to us with their revisions, and then we hope to get it to the SAC by October. After the SAC has reviewed it, it will go out for public comment.

Greening Working Group. The greening working group met for a brainstorming session. One of the ideas was to make our SAC meetings more “green.” It was suggested that agendas and minutes be emailed to members instead of mailing out hard copies. A sheet was passed around at the meeting for people to sign up for their preference of email or mail. Please contact Jean if you were not at the meeting and would prefer to receive your information by mail. Otherwise, she will start emailing the information.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

Mary Beth Stutzman, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The TBNMSF was started to raise money to support education and outreach programs. Our local foundation will be a partnership between Thunder Bay NMS and the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. Mary Beth was hired to fill this local position.

Mary Beth gave a presentation on the mission of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation.

On June 14th, the TBNMSF will host a benefit gala to celebrate the grand opening of the new exhibits and kick off the development program.

Mary Beth mentioned she will be looking for volunteers for a fundraising committee. If you are interested please contact her at 989-356-8805 ext. 39 or by email at marybeth@nmsfocean.org.

EXHIBIT TOUR - Russ Green guided the SAC through a preview of the exhibits and boat builder Rob Stevenson was on hand to talk about construction of the schooner “*Western Hope*.”

Public Comment. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Action Items:

Sanctuary staff will draft and mail meeting minutes to council members.