



MARQUETTE COUNTY
**CLIMATE ADAPTATION
TASK FORCE**

March 16, 2023
2pm HYBRID
NMU; 604 Cohodas or on Zoom

CATF Agenda

1. Election of Officers
 - a. Steering Committee
2. 2022 Year-End Report
3. 2023 Work Plan
4. Subcommittees appointments
 - a. Membership Committee
 - b. Implementation Committee
 - c. Outreach Committee
 - i. Marquette Futures 2050 Proposal
5. Membership Committee Update
6. Climate Resolutions
7. Round Table Updates

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83064243939?pwd=TINZWGtzL3lXeJGTTZWN05FbGhHdz09>

Meeting ID: 830 6424 3939

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MARQUETTE COUNTY
**CLIMATE ADAPTATION
TASK FORCE**

March 9th, 2023

TO: CATF Members
FROM: Emily Leach, CATF Chair
RE: CATF Sub-Committee Creation

BACKGROUND

CATF has established an organizational framework to maintain a sustainable future for the group and remain a keystone to Climate Adaptation in Marquette County. To further *catalyze adaptation implementation in our communities* and *engage CATF members*, I am proposing the creation of the following subcommittees:

- 1. Implementation Committee:** The charge of the Implementation Committee will be to implement the “Community Resilience Planning and Implementation” portion of the work plan.
 - a. Act as the conduit between local units of government and CATF.
 - b. Act as the liaison between economic development groups, organizations, and CATF.
 - c. Guide proactive planning, zoning and administrative/board policies at the municipal level that create concrete steps for adaptation and mitigation.
 - d. The 2023 CATF intern has worked with Marquette Township and Marquette County to pass Climate Resolutions (pending Board adoptions); the Policy Committee will help steer this work forward with additional municipalities.
- 2. Outreach Committee:** The charge of the Outreach Committee will be to implement the “Climate Resiliency, Education and Outreach” portion of the work plan.
 - a. Advise Steering Committee on the CATF website, outreach materials, and presentations.
 - b. Provide updates to municipalities, businesses and the general community.
 - c. Support the Northern Climate Network presentations.
 - d. Review the climate implementation factsheets being created by the 2023 CATF intern before publishing and distributing.

CONSIDERATIONS

Please contemplate if you would like to be considered for appointment to either of these CATF Subcommittees. Members will be appointed to these subcommittees at the March 16th CATF meeting.

To: Climate Adaptation Task Force (CATF)
From: Bob Kulisheck and Greg Seppanen
Re: Marquette 2050 - Alternative Futures in Times of Climate Change
Date: March 8, 2023

What follows is a request that CATF consider the possibility of sponsoring a workshop or series of events which could be described as *Marquette 2050 - Alternative Futures in Times of Climate Change*.

The Steering Committee asked that we draft a description of this proposed project and submit it as an agenda item for discussion at our next CATF meeting on March 16.

What follows is a brief description of the purpose of the project and a listing of questions that still need to be addressed.

Purpose:

This project is predicated on the assumption that climate change will have a major effect on the Marquette community. Some of these effects will be negative while others, especially those related to the potential for economic development, could be positive if handled properly.

The potential negative physical consequences of climate change are rather predictable and will require careful planning. That said, the economic and social consequences of climate change are less certain and will require equally, if not more complex, planning. Forecasts suggest that our region of the country may be less affected by the most extreme consequences of climate change. If so, places like Marquette will need to prepare for an influx of (possibly affluent) climate refugees. Also, the growing demand for natural resources to support a "greener economy" will most likely require additional mining and forestry in our area.

Unfortunately, people have a tendency to divide into hostile camps when considering proposed economic development projects and/or potential changes in the social/demographic makeup of their communities. At one extreme there are those who favor economic development at whatever the cost to the environment. At the other extreme there are those who have an immediate negative response to any proposed changes.

It is hoped that the proposed *Marquette 2050 - Alternative Futures in Times of Climate Change* project will present both challenges and opportunities brought about by climate change in a nonconfrontational fashion. Framing the discussion in terms of alternate futures for Marquette is intended to encourage groups and individuals to engage in proactive thinking about ways the Marquette community can position itself to cope with inevitable change. Thoughtful and proactive planning is most likely to occur when people are given time to think and are not required to make rapid decisions about specific projects or respond to recent catastrophic events.

Questions:

Here are some questions for consideration at the March 16th meeting.

- Does this appear to be an appropriate CATF project?

If so, an *ad hoc* committee could be formed to consider implementation logistics and then report back to CATF for final review and approval of the project.

This *ad hoc* committee would address the following questions.

- How can this project be conducted in the most cost-efficient and least time-consuming fashion?
- Should this be a one-day workshop or several workshops each addressing a different issue?
- What other groups should be asked to participate in, and possibly cosponsor, this project (e.g., SWP, NMU, MSU, LWV, the county, the city, surrounding townships)?
- How can this project be coordinated with and designed to augment local master plans?
- At what point would it be appropriate to draw the general public into this planning process?
- How can this project be designed to encourage local planners to make use of its findings?
- etc.

Thank you for considering this proposal.



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Gerald O. Corkin, *Chairman*

Joe Derocha, *Vice-Chair*

Karen Alholm

Bill Nordeen

Johnny DePetro

Stephen Adamini

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING MEASURES TO RESPOND TO A CHANGING CLIMATE

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that significant greenhouse gas emission reductions are critical by 2030 to avert irreversible damage; and,

WHEREAS, in September 2020, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Order 2020-182, and Executive Directive 2020-10 to create the MI Healthy Climate Plan, putting Michigan on a path toward becoming fully carbon-neutral by 2050; and,

WHEREAS, Marquette County Board of Commissioners has stated pursuit of climate action by promoting a, “community resilient to climate change through mitigation, adaptation, and coordinated public policy” as a goal of the Marquette County 2040 Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, Marquette County is a founding member of the Marquette County Climate Adaptation Task Force (CATF), whose mission is to prepare local leaders and Marquette County stakeholders to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies that will make the Upper Peninsula more resilient and effective when dealing with the consequences of climate change and extreme weather events; and,

WHEREAS, Lake Superior’s surface temperature has risen 6.3°F over the last 100 years, three times faster than the global average, resulting in 79% decreased ice coverage since 1973 providing less protection from powerful storms which have damaged public infrastructure and private property, and raising infrastructure maintenance costs; and,

WHEREAS, a transition to a clean energy economy, if not carefully planned, may have a disruptive impact on the livelihoods of many in our community, while a well-planned transition may provide financial benefits and improved livability from expanded job opportunities for local residents while creating a more resilient energy portfolio; and,

WHEREAS, Marquette County is a prime location for climate migrants looking to relocate due to the impacts of climate change on their current home regions, and affordable and attainable housing and necessary community services should be available to prepare for a potential population increase; and,

WHEREAS, use of sustainable forestry practices in the Marquette County Forest has the potential to manage wildfire potential and thus maintain a high level of air quality, and protect the quality of the groundwater stored in the region; and,

WHEREAS, a baseline study, monitored and endorsed by the County, assessing the resource availability and quality of water available to county residents, would provide necessary data needed for sustainable planning; and,

WHEREAS, climate change has impacted the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, and coordinated emergency response teams with updated mapping and 911 capabilities are necessary to preserve the wellbeing of residents from climate related disasters; and,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners on this _____ day of _____, 202_ supports policies that **will support infrastructure projects and human services that foster resiliency to a changing climate in the Central Upper Peninsula of Michigan based on the best available data:**

- Create a Climate Action Plan;
- Commit to an effort to eliminate the County's greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; and seek a facilities wide audit and implement projects to decrease carbon levels in the atmosphere to align with statewide goals;
- Support updates to the State Building Code, as they relate to climate adaptation, and seek state incentives to fund new building requirements from an updated code, and will encourage residents to seek incentives that will assist funding to complete projects that comply with residential, and commercial weatherization and efficiency standards;
- Plan infrastructure development that will support climate adaptation and mitigation, with the understanding that the swift transition to electric vehicles is anticipated;
- Update ranking criteria for Capital Improvements Projects to better align with the Master Plan and Strategic Plan with a resiliency focus, and seek all available funding to subsidize the above efforts; and,

The Board understands the consequences of a changing climate and its impacts on vulnerable communities and demographic sectors and calls upon the municipalities, residents, businesses, and organizations within the County to join in the above stated efforts to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners strongly support collaborative efforts to achieve resiliency goals in a timely manner; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the municipalities within it's jurisdiction.

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
County Board of Commissioners

Date

2023

U.P. Food Summit

Monday, March 27

10AM – 4PM • FREE

The Northern Center
on the campus of
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, MI

The Upper Peninsula Food Exchange (UPFE) welcomes you to join us for the Upper Peninsula Food Summit. We are gathering to celebrate local food, to highlight food system projects, and to network with each other.

This event is open to everyone - farmers, researchers, community members, food producers, food industry workers, advocates, and policy makers.

Lunch, snacks, and refreshments will be provided.

Activities will be available for children who attend.

This event is supported with generous funding from the USDA Regional Food Systems Partnership Grant, or Food SPICE, Food Systems Partners Investing in Communities and Entrepreneurs, and MSU Center for Regional Food Systems.

Register at events.anr.msu.edu/UpperPeninsulaFoodSummit2023

Check upfoodexchange.com for updates about the event.

Contact Sarah at **906.273.2287** for more information





For Immediate Release: February 14, 2023

Contact: Sarah Monte, Marquette Food Co-op / U.P. Food Exchange
smonte@marquettefood.coop, (906) 225-0671 x723

2023 U.P. Food Summit to be held March 27

The U.P. Food Exchange (UPFE) is pleased to announce that registration is open for the 2023 U.P. Food Summit. The Summit will be held on March 27, 2023 from 10am-4pm at the Northern Center, on the campus of Northern Michigan University.

This event celebrates local food, highlights projects from around the Upper Peninsula, and provides networking opportunities. The keynote speakers are Roger LaBine, Water Resource Technician for the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and Kathleen Smith, Manoomin Ganawandang or “She who takes care of the wild rice,” for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Kathleen and Roger will present findings on the impact of climate change on wild rice in the Great Lakes area.

Other presentations planned for the day include an overview of the U.P. wide Prescription for Health and farm-based cold storage grant program that was launched in 2022, training for food producers on schools as markets, and results of a food aggregation and distribution hub feasibility study. The day will include more than presentations – it is also built around opportunities to participate in interactive demonstrations, discussions, and local food story telling.

“Our local food system is something to be celebrated. This event gives people from different parts of the food system a chance to connect with each other. We want to think collectively about where we are now with local food in the UP, and what the future could look like,” says Rachael Pressley, Regional Planner at the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) and member of the UPFE Food Summit Planning Team.

This event, which includes lunch and refreshments, is free thanks to generous funding from the USDA Regional Food Systems Partnership Grant, or Food SPICE, Food Systems Partners Investing in Communities and Entrepreneurs, and MSU Center for Regional Food Systems. Preregistration is required, and can be done at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/UpperPeninsulaFoodSummit2023/>

Farmers, farmers market managers, food producers, or others in need of travel assistance to attend the event may contact Sarah at smonte@marquettefood.coop for more information.

You may learn more about the conference and the U.P. Food Exchange at www.upfoodexchange.com or www.facebook.com/upfoodexchange.

The U.P. Food Exchange is a local food network that coordinates and supports food activities across the U.P. Its mission is to broaden collaboration among communities for a mutually supportive food system in the Upper Peninsula.