



CATF Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2020
1:00 p.m. via Zoom

In attendance: Bob Kulisheck, Brad Neumann, Emily Leach, Gail Anthony, Greg Seppanen, Jerry Messana, Jes Thompson, Karen Alholm, Martha Gerig, Ryan Stock, Tom Tourville, Tyler Penrod, Zosia Eppensteiner

1. Announcements:
 - CATF welcomed Ryan Stock and Zosia Eppensteiner to CATF.
 - Emily and Brad did a presentation for Kalamazoo County this spring to help them kick off a similar effort to CATF.
2. County Planning Update
 - Master Plan 2040: <https://www.mgtcoplan.org/>
 - In person region rallies cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. Marquette County is brainstorming a plan to further engage the public and stakeholders virtually. The County is accepting suggestions to transition engagement to virtual platforms.
 - CATF asked to look through all of our local climate adaptation plans and submit the priority climate adaptation strategies to the Planning Division to include in the County Master Plan.
 - The timeline for Master Plan adoption moving up with the cancellation of region rallies. Adoption of plan penciled in for first quarter of 2021.
3. MICHAP Update
 - Survey and recorded April 30 & May 7 workshops (Negaunee and Marquette Township) available online: check email for links from Brad.
 - A third virtual workshop will be the final community engagement opportunity for each community. Demonstration projects at these two locations may proceed with some funding available from DHHS.
 - The Water Coalition was formed under the Marquette County Master Plan through encouragement of the MICHAP water focus group. Municipal representatives, EGLE, Health Department and the Planning Division have met and established goals and guidance for the coalition outcomes to be included in the master plan. One of the first goals is to map municipal water systems. With partners including NMU EEGS Dept. and EGLE., NMU student interns will be sifting through hard copy documentation to create a GIS map in the fall. A comprehensive water resources zoning ordinance review was compiled for municipalities in the county. An initial survey was sent to municipalities about municipal systems. The next step will be to issue a second questionnaire on water contaminants of concern through the municipalities.
 - Bob asked a question concerning the safety of dams in our area: Tom Tourville says the BLP has been a great steward of their dams and following safety standards. Dams have been listed as an item of interest for the Water Coalition. SWP completed a survey of all Lake Superior dams and could be a resource for the coalition.

4. SWP Update

- Covid Crews
 - Crews have been free to groups and communities including Ishpeming, Escanaba, and Perkin's Park to provide relief during these times. The crews will continue relief efforts through June 12.
- GLCC
 - Crews began their 12 week summer field season 5/21. Orientation prepared them for work including preparedness and response to Covid-19. The next few weeks will be packed with urban coastal tree planting in Escanaba, KBIC, and Munising. Crews will be inventorying dams in the Lake Huron watershed, and other conservation and recreation projects.
- Lakeshore Project
 - The City broke ground on relocating Lakeshore Blvd. this spring.
 - Michigan Coastal Management Program is recommending \$200,000 in funding for the project. When made official, the City would match \$300,000 to extend the project further South.
 - Some work will be done by GLCC crews this summer, but most of the dune swale restoration will be done in the summer of 2021.
 - Tyler will report on the standing of FEMA funding at the next meeting.

5. NMU Update

- Ryan Stock will be co-coordinating the Northern Climate Network with Jes Thompson. Future NCN Climate at Noon presentations will be virtual.
- NSF Coastlines & People
 - The third workshop was cancelled, but the team is planning a virtual experience including videos, virtual presentations, and participant surveys.
 - The project will conclude with conceptual ideas for 3 coastal community characteristics including A) transportation along the lakeshore B) postindustrial site C) and urban development.
 - There will be a link available on the website from June 15-26: <https://sites.google.com/view/copecoastlinespeople/home> A virtual meeting will conclude the workshop series on June 26 from 3:00-4:30 p.m.
 - A magazine will illustrate the 3 concepts as informed by the workshop participants.
 - SWP intends to apply for NSF grant funding to make Marquette a hub and continue this project to build upon the work of the Coastlines and People team and partners.
- NMU is moving forward with a campaign focused on rural health, sustainability, and innovation. CATF could provide a letter of support for a sustainability center at NMU.

6. CFMC Update

- Covid Response Fund
 - \$84,000 raised to benefit local non-profits and meet the basic needs of people. CFMC will be creating an emergency fund to hasten future response efforts to crises such as this.
- GLOW Partnership
 - Funding for the 6 Great Lakes regions lost funding due to Covid-19 impacts. Duluth, Marinette/Menominee, and Marquette will continue their projects anyway this summer.
- Clean Energy Fund

- CFMC is working with Range Bank to create a clean energy fund for Marquette County. Future event tentatively rescheduled for Fall 2020.
 - Census
 - We are leading the nation in Census response, so we are on track to be accurately counted in 2020.
 - Our Common Future
 - Funding from Flagstar Bank is being reprioritized for Covid-19 response.
7. Seize the Moment: CATF efforts in Light of COVID-19
- The Covid Crisis is providing us an opportunity to reach out within our network to identify how we can reshape how we open our economy back up.
 - Emily proposes creating a 1 page document containing the highest priority strategies from all of the local climate adaptation plans we currently have to submit to the Marquette County Planning Division for adoption into the Master Plan and further engage local governments in planning for climate resiliency.
 - Emily proposes a “local climate toolkit” by revamping the NCN website to connect students and the public with all local climate adaptation and resiliency efforts, and link to their virtual Climate at Noon presentations. Gail urges caution while utilizing student groups because the nature of students coming and going can disrupt consistent progress. Discussion ensued about creating a plan to mitigate any disruptions.
 - Brad suggests reaching out to additional units of government to engage in CATF.
 - Group consensus is that the Steering Committee could draft the initial strategy document and develop a plan for the “local climate toolkit” and present it to the full CATF at the next meeting.
8. Good of the order
- Tom Tourville: BLP anticipates reducing rates in October with the savings from eliminating coal from their portfolio and the lower than expected cost of demolishing the Shiras Steam Plant. <https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/content/news/Marquette-BLP-provides-update-on-Shiras-Steam-Plant--570028051.html>
 - Brad Neumann and MSUE are hosting a virtual master citizen planner workshop on June 4 to discuss hazard mitigation, high water & storms, and local government response. <https://events.anr.msu.edu/event.cfm?eventID=562AFE3EA38388CEC510FB85B4AC99B845A53FBF1E5721B81101076DEBCE9434>
 - Adjournment 2:48 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 20, 2020 1 p.m.