



MARQUETTE COUNTY
**CLIMATE ADAPTATION
TASK FORCE**

CATF Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 20, 2020
1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Members in Attendance: Bob Kulisheck, Brad Neumann, Dave Stensaas, Emily Leach, Greg Seppanen, Jerry Messana, Jes Thompson, Karen Alholm, Martha Gerig, Ryan Stock, Tom Tourville, Tyler Penrod, Zosia Eppensteiner

Guests in Attendance: Kristen Carlson, Tim Clancy, Kevin Crupi

1. Presentation: Kristen Carlson from Citizens' Climate Lobby Marquette Chapter; Draft Marquette City Commission Climate Resolution Input

- Summary of the Resolution:
 1. Decrease fossil fuel use by 10% each year for the next 5 years within each city department.
 2. Conduct an energy use survey across all city departments.
 3. Consider the potential for off-setting carbon emissions with alternatives in any discussion of funding for tools, vehicles, offices; refrigerant management and bio-based carbon emissions/sequestration; and city operations in general.
 4. Encourage, through an ongoing public information campaign, actions that individual Marquette residents can take that will contribute to decreasing the overall carbon footprint of the city.
 5. Form a committee that will annually compile and report citywide energy conservation and fossil fuel reduction efforts to the citizens of Marquette.
 6. The City will urge Congress to support a carbon fee and dividend policy to help reduce national carbon emissions.
 7. Expenses Attachment: lists several examples and the cost associated with severe weather disasters in Marquette
- Discussion of the Resolution:
 - Tim Clancy: After discussion with city commissioners, it was found that the city will not endorse specific federal legislation in a city resolution.
 - Tom Tourville: How long has discussion been ongoing with the city, including commissioner Evan Bonsall? Kevin and Tom Clancy have had informal conversations with Evan Bonsal and several other commissioners, but it's in the beginning stages. Tom recommends that CCL present a refined version of this draft to the city planning commission.
 - Jessica Thompson suggests that this resolution should be shared with the City Manager in a way to provide the city ownership of the resolution.
 - Johnson Controls has implemented energy conservation across city departments, so the section on the energy audit could be rephrased to honor the work already accomplished and what can be done to progress forward in energy conservation.
 - Bob Kulisheck echoed Jessica and Tom Tourville's suggestion that CCL should find a way to give the city ownership over this resolution.

- Ryan Stock suggested the topics of justice and equity as an addition to the resolution.
- Tyler Penrod suggested that the resolution may fair better if it were broken down topic-by-topic and implemented in a phased approach.
- Dave Stensaas pointed out that the resolution doesn't honor progress already made by the city. Dave recommends that authoritative phrases should be removed.
- CCL Contact Information:
 - a. Kristen Carlson: kfreidan@gmail.com
 - b. Tim Clancy: tclancy@gmail.com

2. Marquette County Master Plan with Emily Leach

- Review draft climate strategies:
 1. The purpose is to create a broad outline within the natural resources chapter's section on climate to enable more measurable and specific actions on climate adaptation and mitigation.
 2. Rather than make this an "action plan" which outlines specific measurable actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, the goal of the county master plan is to keep the goals broad for use from municipalities and organizations within the county alike.
 3. Bob suggests ranking the goals in order of importance or impact.

3. Northern Climate Network Website Update with Jessica Thompson

- Climate@Noon:
 1. Ryan Stock has lined up a fall semester webinar series featuring speakers from every level from local to international perspectives. Speakers will touch on the intersections of global climate change with topics including agriculture, biology, state policy, and NMU sustainability.
 2. Upcoming zoom seminars:
 1. August 28: Prioritizing Climate-Smart Agriculture
 2. September 18: Michigan's Climate & Energy Advisor
 3. October 16: Report on NMU's 2020 Sustainability Audit
 4. November 6: The Color of Bunny
 5. January 22: Gender & Climate Adaptation
- Local climate toolkit:
 1. Work is underway with a NMU grad student to develop a website to house a "Marquette climate toolkit"
 2. Marquette Climate groups will all be included on the site as a landing page for engagement by students and the Marquette community members.
 3. NCN recorded presentations will be archived on the website.

4. Roundtable Updates

- Community Foundation of Marquette County with Zosia Eppensteiner:
 1. Beth Milner
 1. CFMC was selected by Beth Milner to receive funds from the sale of a pendant for environmental funding.
 2. COVID-19 Community Response
 1. CFMC has raised funding with local partners to support COVID-19 community response to this pandemic, upwards of \$150,000. CFMC is planning to create an emergency response fund for future disasters to shorten their response time.
- Marquette Board of Light and Power with Tom Tourville:

1. Congratulations to Tom on Retirement!
 1. Tom has retired and will be term-limited from the BLP this November. He'd like to entertain a discussion on whether he should remain on CATF or look for a replacement from BLP.
 2. BLP is tearing down the Shiras Power plant.
 3. BLP has recently lowered rates.
- Marquette County with Emily Leach:
 1. Marquette County Master Plan
 1. Drafting the master plan is ongoing. Further CATF input on the Climate section of the Natural Resources chapter will be appreciated at the next CATF meeting.
 2. Large solar development
 1. The large solar project in Marquette County still has potential, and discussions are ongoing after a large scale solar project fell through in Delta County.
 3. COVID-19 media campaign
 1. A media campaign has begun to encourage COVID-19 health and safety in Marquette County. #maskupmqt materials are being distributed, a video ad will be aired, a website has been created, and a dashboard consisting of covid data will be launching soon with assistance from CUPPAD, CFMC, Flagstar Foundation, MCHD and Marquette County Planning.
- MSU Extension with Brad Neumann:
 1. MICHAP:
 1. Final reports from MICHAP are coming out soon for Marquette Township and Negaunee.
 2. State DHHS is reviewing a guidebook from Marquette County from the MICHAP project. The review process is vigorous, but he hopes for it to be available soon.
 3. Marquette Township is in conversations with MDOT to extend the sidewalk off of US-41 from Wright St. East towards the Mall. If successful it will help to increase the walkability and thereby reduce miles driven and greenhouse gas emissions, and better air quality.
 4. Negaunee is working on "Safe Routes to School" project.
- Superior Watershed Partnership with Tyler Penrod:
 1. Low income solar program:
 1. The Energy Conservation Corps has completed five low income solar installations so far this summer. They have five more planned for the fall of this year.
 2. GLOW rain gardens:
 1. The Great Lakes Conservation Corps has completed the two residential rain gardens and is planning to break ground on the larger commercial rain gardens next week.
 3. GLCC summer season:
 1. The last day of the GLCC summer season wrapped up on August 7th. Crews accomplished a number of high priority conservation objectives this summer including planting thousands of trees, restoring acres of coastal habitat, responding to help partners open during the COVID-19 pandemic, and much more.
 4. Lakeshore Blvd.:

1. Phase 1: Road relocation 300ft from Lake Superior is nearly complete and on schedule.
 2. Phase 2: Naturalization of 20 acres is planned to begin in the spring of 2021 with coastal wetland and dune restoration. SWP is working with the city to conserve large native trees to serve as barriers to erosion and filter water runoff.
5. NSF Coastlines & People
 1. SWP partnered with Jes Thompson and her team to apply for phase two funding to make Marquette a “climate hub” as we transition from planning to implementation. The proposal includes many university and tribal partners from all along the South Shore from Duluth, MN to Sault Ste. Marie, MI.
5. Adjournment 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 19, 2020 at 1:00 p.m via zoom.