



MARQUETTE COUNTY
**CLIMATE ADAPTATION
TASK FORCE**

CATF Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 27, 2024
2:00 p.m. Cohodas Rm. 604

Members in Attendance (* indicates attendance via Zoom):

Karen Alholm, Pri Burnham, Zosia Eppensteiner*, Jane Fitkin, Isabelle Honkomp*, Brian Hummel*, Bob Kulisheck, Emily Leach, Tyler Penrod, Greg Seppanen, Jes Thompson, Dale Throenle*, Abby Wallace*, Johanna Worley*

Guests in Attendance: Quinn Thibault, Kathy Vermaat

1. Committee Updates

- Membership Committee Update
 - After last quarter's meeting, CATF members voted to add Jane Fitkin from Citizens for a Safe and Clean Lake Superior as a CATF member.
 - we still have open invites to add KBIC and the Sault Tribe to our membership. When we learn of staffing at the tribes to accept the role, we will welcome the prospective new member(s) to a meeting to learn more about each organization's related initiatives.
 - Last we met, we also talked about inviting MarqTran and a west end community, like Ishpeming, to join CATF.
- Outreach Committee: Marquette 2049 Learning Circles Series
 - CATF has hosted two learning circles so far on the topics of food systems and security as well as trash and recycling. Acknowledging the difficulties of convening large groups during the summer, the learning circles originally scheduled for July and August were postponed until November and December.

2. Round Table Updates

- CSCLS is starting outreach to local landowners to provide education on the importance and protection of coastal wetlands. CSCLS is transitioning to a broader prospective including coastal wetland protection and native habitat restoration with a project underway at the Big Bay Pathway.
- CSCLS is hosting an event called "Superior Snapshot: A Year in Review" on Wednesday, July 10, 6-9pm at Ore Dock Brewing Co.
- LWV has hosted tours of Eagle Mine and public services including local waste and water facilities. LWV has increased its focus on advocating for environmental policies based on the growing interest and consensus of members.
- Janzen House received an energy audit from SWP's GLCC Energy Technicians. Bob and Tom were impressed with the team's skills and professionalism.
- The City of Marquette is opening a time capsule and reburying it to be opened in 2049. CATF will work to make an addition to the time capsule in regards to our Marquette 2049 Learning Circles series.
- County of Marquette
 - Energy audit, GHG inventory, and fleet review bids are being considered. The intent is for this to move quickly within the next 3 months. The report will help to inform the Climate Action Plan.
 - Quinn is responsible with creating Marquette County's Climate Action Plan as part of their MI Healthy Climate Corps service term. Quinn formed

- a subcommittee to help support the creation of this plan. The County is seeking funding to host conversations to encourage community input.
 - By July 6 the County will notify the state of its intention to develop a Regional Materials Management Plan. CUPAD will serve as the regional planning agency.
- The City of Marquette's Community Master Plan public comment period is active now through Thursday, July 18. CATF will provide comment on the master plan.
- Community Foundation of Marquette County
 - 67 grant applications were received for the spring grant funding cycle. CFMC recommended 45 applications for funding and 34 were funded fully. CFMC is focusing on supporting rural areas of Marquette County.
 - Rotary, Marquette Lions Club, and CFMC are putting out returnables containers at local events with funds going to support the needs of the community.
 - The Just Transition Fund is supporting communities in receiving federal funding to support expanding workforce development, improving infrastructure, and promoting economic diversification. Zosia offered to continue the discussion with anyone interested with opportunities available to non-profits and units of government.
- In March SWP, MEC, MEO, and CUPAD applied for a \$10 million grant to provide services to ~1,000 households including weatherization and solar installation. They are waiting to hear back on a funding decision.
- The new state budget allocates \$20 million to the Disaster and Emergency Contingency Fund which has been overdrawn by \$25 million in the past. Marquette and Baraga Counties were each allocated \$1 million in funding in response to last year's spring flooding.
- Marquette County Emergency Management is updating the Emergency Operations Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plan. Those interested in helping to update these plans are encouraged to contact Brian Hummel.
- Superior Watershed Partnership
 - SWP is hosting a Summer Volunteer Event series with the next one being tomorrow at Founder's Landing as part of Art Week. You can show up at any time between 10am-2pm and join one of our GLCC crews in pulling invasives and planting native species at the new speardocks. The dates of upcoming volunteer events are July 12, July 26, August 9, and August 23.
 - The GLCC summer season is approaching the half way point. To start the season our crews planted tens of thousands of trees in Marquette County and around the U.P. The crews have partnered with Marquette County on wildfire fuels reduction at Little Trout Lake Park and are making trail improvements at Sugarloaf Mountain. A crew of MARESA students are working alongside the GLCC at Sugarloaf as part of their job training program.
 - SWP has funding through EGLE Charge Up, MEDC, and the National Park Service Mobility Challenge to install more level 3 rapid EV charges in UP communities. Marquette, Munising, Grand Marais, and Hancock will receive a total of 7 of these EV chargers.
- Northern Climate Network is turning 10 years old this year! The schedule is set for the 2024-25 school year:
 - Sep 6, 2024 - 10 Year Anniversary: The NCN at NMU
 - Oct 4, 2024 - Rural Electric Co-ops and the Climate Crisis

- Nov 1, 2024 - Climate Change & Higher Education / OR / AI & the Environment
 - January 17, 2025 - Policy & Energy Siting
 - February 7, 2025 - Ceremony and Storywork: How to decolonize contemporary climate narratives
 - March 14, 2025 - Your Brain on Nature
 - NMU was selected to be a data collection site for SpheriCity, a National Science Foundation research project. Marquette is one of 11 communities selected to be part of this research project. This will involve transects for litter and audits of items for sale and available in local restaurants and businesses.
 - Sands Township will hold another Electronics Recycling event for Marquette County on July 19 and 20. We'll be getting details out next week including hours for each day and the types of items that can be recycled (not everything with a power cord or battery is considered electronics). Collection will take place at the Sands Township Recycling & Transfer station on M553.
- 3. Quarterly Resources to Share**
- See attached.
- 4. Good of the Order**
- Adjournment 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 5, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.