

**Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, February, 2009 12:00 noon
Stonehouse Bread Café, Leland**

Members Present

Marsha Buehler, Leelanau Township
Greg Julian, Leelanau County Planning Commission
Kimberly Mann, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
Tom Nixon, Suttons Bay Township
Frank Wilcox, Glen Arbor Township

Guests

Sharon Oriel, LIWDA
Jill Webb, LIWDA

Staff Present

Patty O'Donnell, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments

I. Welcome and Introductions

Tom Nixon called the meeting to order at 12:05 noon. Introductions were made around the table.

II. Review Proposed Agenda

Greg Julian requested adding IV. New Business b. Leelanau County Tree Planting Project. Approved with addition by consensus.

III. Review and Approve Previous Meeting's Minutes (January 26, 2009)

Motion made by Frank Wilcox, support by Kim Mann to approve the minutes of January 26, 2009. Motion carried.

IV. New Business

a. Green Mapping Leelanau County

Jill Webb and Sharon Oriel from the Leelanau Independent Women's Democratic Action stated that they would like to develop a green map for Leelanau County which would include information and locations on recycling, green lodging, outdoor activities, trails, playgrounds, parks, organic food business, farm stands, etc. They would like to work with the Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route and the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments Green Infrastructure program instead of working separately towards a similar goal. This suggested product fits with the Heritage Routes Management Plan priority projects. Discussion followed regarding the type of map – icons, keys, online by sections, chambers of commerce, topics, businesses, where to distribute. Jill will get the LIWDA's inventory to include and will work with Patty O'Donnell.

b. Leelanau County Tree Planting Project

Greg Julian reported that the Leelanau County Parks and Recreation Committee is looking into developing a tree planting project throughout the County near roads. It would include public and private properties. Glen Noonan has made a donation to get the project started and promoted. Greg is bringing a group together and the Heritage Route would like to be on board – possibly work on a five year cycle; funding; maintenance; idea areas; Northern Michigan Youth Corps; native trees, especially hardwoods; memorial trees. Kim Mann stated that the Park may be able to provide trees to plant on Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore property along the Heritage Route or other locations by relocating trees within the Park. Patty will participate on the Committee for the Heritage Route.

V. Old Business

No Old Business at this time.

VII. Project Updates

a. Trailway Project Update

Patty O'Donnell reported that the revised Plan and Environmental Assessment will be distributed again for a 30 day public comment period. The Trailway Work Group and MDOT will begin the design and engineering in March on Section 5 – Dune Climb to Glen Arbor. The National Scenic Byways grant application for construction of this Section has been submitted.

b. Elmwood Township Park and Marina Project

No one was present from Elmwood Township to report.

c. Omena Buried Utilities Project

Marsha stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

d. Empire Streetscape Project

The project has been completed.

e. Signs and Heritage Routes Committee

Patty reported that the Signage Work Group has been expanded to statewide with the other heritage routes participating. The heritage routes are scenic, historical, and recreational. Do not diminish the scenic virtues of the heritage routes. There will be a plan with recommendations developed and examples. Need to educate people and businesses about signage.

f. Northport – Future by Design

Marsha Buehler stated that Gosling Czubak presented the Future by Design information to the Northport Village Council. A plan is being developed and there is work towards a possible Downtown Development Authority to capture local funds.

g. Educational Opportunities

1. Guidebook: Patty will be working on this the next couple of months.
2. Port Oneida Fair August 7-8: The Heritage Route has signed up for the booth.
3. Tom Nixon will check into placing the Heritage Route display at the Suttons Bay High School.

VIII. Correspondence

Patty reported that there will not be a full Michigan Heritage Route Statewide Conference this year; probably every other year.

The Michigan Department of Transportation North Region has applied for funding to develop the 45th Parallel Park roadside park and scenic viewing area.

IX. Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

X. Announcements

No announcements at this time.

XII. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **Monday, March 23rd at 12:00 noon** at the Leelanau Conservation District in Lake Leelanau.

XIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.