

PROPOSED LAKE ONTARIO NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting #14 - VIRTUAL

Thursday, January 20, 2022

MEETING SUMMARY - FINAL

Welcome – Bill Crist

Bill Crist called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. EST and welcomed everyone to meeting #14 and the first meeting of 2022.

Bill welcomed three new SAC members: Katie Piazza (Alternate, Citizen-at-Large), Dan Gildea (Alternate, Maritime History and Interpretation) and Kristen Eichhorn (Alternate, Education).

Bill introduced the new advisory council members.

Katie Piazza, Alternate, Citizen-at-Large: Katie expressed her excitement on joining the council. She grew up on the shorelines of Lake Ontario on the borders of Mexico Bay and Pulaski. Attended graduate school in Oswego with a Masters in Chemistry. Katie works in the pharmaceutical industry as a compliance scientist ensuring drug safety. Katie stumbled upon the SAC when in Antarctica on a leadership initiative with a group of scientists from around the world. Katie met a retired NOAA Corps Officer who encouraged her to apply to the council. Katie emphasized the importance of the shoreline and how the lake has endured a tremendous amount of stress over the last five years. She is excited to see the sanctuary initiative moving forward and working towards the common goal.

Kristen Eichhorn, Alternate, Education: Kristen thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the council. Kristen is originally from western New York and grew up in Niagara County on the shores of Lake Ontario and spent her summers on Lake Erie in Canada. Kristen studied communication and received her Masters from West Virginia University and earned her PhD from the University of Miami in Coral Gables. Kristen specializes in communications building effective and appropriate relationships. Kristen moved into the Dean's position in graduate studies at SUNY Oswego and has a deep curiosity and passion for all science of higher education, connecting communication folks with the STEM discipline and translating technical information into information that our communities can absorb. Kristen is excited to learn more about everyone on the council and how to be a good committee member.

Dan Gildea, Alternate, Maritime History and Interpretation: Dan thanked the council for an opportunity to serve in the maritime seat. Dan is an engineer with Prudent Engineering and is based out of Syracuse, NY. Dan and his wife have a deep-rooted love of history both above and below the water, especially with regards to shipwrecks. Dan's scuba diving and shipwreck passion goes back to Guam. Dan loves the history of Lake Ontario, the maritime history as well as the North Country of New York and is looking forward to contributing as much as he can.

Bill also announced three seat changes giving the opportunity for people to move around on the SAC. Joe Zarzynski has moved from the alternate seat in Maritime History and Interpretation to the member seat backfilling for Dennis McCarthy (Dennis retired from his seat). Gail Smith and Tom Burke have switched seats for Recreational Fishing. Gail is now serving in the member seat and Tom is the alternate. Dave Granoff and Jay Matteson have switched seats for Economic Development. Dave is now serving in the member seat and Jay is the alternate. Bill thanked the new members and all of the advisory council for their time, energy and commitment.

Old Business – Bill Crist

Bill called for a motion to approve the October 2021 advisory council meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Bob Morgan, seconded by Ed Mervine. All in favor and approved.

Winter Lecture Series - Katie Malinowski

A group of subcommittee members (Bill Crist, Kristen Eichhorn, Dan Gildea, Jeanie Gleisner, Dave Granoff, Bob Morgan, Katie Piazza, Ray Tucker, Joe Zarzynski, Ellen Brody and Pam Orlando) are working on a series of winter lectures both in-person and hybrid to keep the public interested about the proposed sanctuary. The first three are scheduled as follows:

- February 19, 2P-4P: *Lighthouses of the Seaway Trail*. WPBS President Mark Prasuhn. Lightkeepers around the region have been invited to participate.
- March 26, Noon-2P: *Weather of Lake Ontario – Judy Levan*
- April 30, 2P-4P: *Lake Ontario and the War of 1812 – Dr. Tim Abel, Dr. Ben Ford and Dr. Gary Gibson*. The three are well-known historians (both maritime and terrestrial). This will be held at Sackets Harbor Battlefield: tinyurl.com/LakeOntarioWarof1812
- Fall 2022 – Two lectures are being proposed:
 - The Underground RR and the Connection to Lake Ontario
 - Indigenous Peoples of Lake Ontario

NOAA Updates – Ellen Brody

Ellen reported that NOAA is in a “quiet” period right now and is working on the proposed rule including the regulatory concept, and coming to a decision on the sanctuary boundary. NOAA is working with the Coast Guard and Seaway Corporation talking through their concerns of safety in the Thousand Islands. Other NOAA updates include:

- Budget. Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) through Feb 18. Both the House and Senate marks are increased over last year's budget. Hoping Congress comes to an agreement on the budget and there is no year-long continuing resolution.
- A new national marine sanctuary has been proposed. The proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary is located in California between Channel Islands NMS and Monterey Bay NMS. The sanctuary was proposed by the Chumash Northern Tribe and would protect important ocean

resources such as kelp beds and the sacred territory of the Chumash. Public scoping meetings will close on January 31. <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/chumash-heritage/>

- The sanctuary program is celebrating its 50th anniversary (October 2022 official anniversary). There are a number of stories and posters being developed at each site around the program. A story published in November talks about how national marine sanctuaries are named based on science areas, indigenous peoples, etc. <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/news/nov21/celebrate-spectacular.html>

State and Local Updates

Laura McLean, Policy Analyst, New York State Department of State

- State agencies have provided comments to NOAA on the draft Memorandum of Agreement and productive conversations have been occurring with NOAA.
- Permitting discussions with NY State agencies and NOAA will occur in late January. Looking to discuss the intersection of the States' existing regulatory reviews with new NOAA regulations and permits that are expected once the designation is finalized.
- DOS and NOAA have been having conversations on our upcoming federal consistency review. DOS is the administrative seat of the coastal management program Federal consistency review of federal activities like this direct action (proposed sanctuary) for rulemaking. The State reviews for consistency and enforceable coastal policies and is moving forward with engagement from the State agencies on this designation.

Christine Worth, Wayne County (for Rick House)

- No Updates

Phil Church, Oswego County

- On behalf of the local governments, Phil thanked Laura and those working at DOS for their continued support and work on the proposed sanctuary.
- Oswego County passed a resolution to send on to the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) opposing development of the wind towers in Lake Ontario and is being reviewed again by the State. The county does not feel the project is compatible for the fishing and tourism industry that relish the pristine lake but also for the proposed sanctuary. Please reach out to Phil via email if you would like a copy of the Resolution.

Steve Lynch, Cayuga County

- New member of the legislature representing Cayuga County in District 1, Town of Sterling and Victory and Village of Fair Haven is the longtime Mayor of Fair Haven, Jim Basile. Mayor Basile

has been and continues to be a strong supporter of the sanctuary and its efforts to protect the waterfront and is concerned about waterfront water levels in LO as well.

- Sterling Nature Center which is 1,400 acres of land and 2 miles of shoreline in LO is scheduled to go to construction in the first quarter of this year on 5,000 square feet for an Educational and Visitor Center. Perhaps a site to hold events and educate people about the marine sanctuary in the future.
- We have finalized with the County of Oswego the CLEAR Plan a follow up to the REDI Plan. CLEAR Plan is a coastal lakeshore and economic resiliency plan. Cayuga County and Oswego counties are working on this together and it is currently moving through DOS right now. Localities and counties will be asked to accept or endorse this in some manner. Thanks to the DOS who are on the call for their support.
- Lastly, half way through our department staff and working with the Town of Sterling on the revitalization plan who are strongly interested and support the NOAA sanctuary. They will be referencing NOAA in their plan in the final LWRP.

Bob Hagemann, Jefferson County

- Bob had technical difficulties with the audio, but did not have a report.

Shannon Ricles, Education and Outreach Specialist, Monitor NMS and Mallows Bay-Potomac River,

Shannon thanked the council for inviting her to speak and provide a presentation on the importance of sharing education, maritime heritage and remote ROVs at the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary (MNMS) and Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary (MB-PRNMS). Shannon is a former classroom teacher and certified in earth science and is deeply passionate about science and ROVs. Shannon has been an educator for over 35 years.

Shannon gave a brief overview of both sanctuaries and how ROVs and AUVs come into play and how it's translated into classroom education.

- Shannon started working with local schools. Teachers are eager to do STEM but engineering is the hardest to incorporate into classroom activities. Other STEM benefits with ROVs include physics, Newton's Law of Motion, buoyancy, properties of air, a lot of math and teamwork.
- Shannon conducted focus groups and developed an outline for a curriculum and activities that were aligned with the National Science Standards.
- Shannon started taking ROV kits into the classroom providing introduction to NOAA, engineering and ROVs to get students started. Recommended for grades 6 thru 12. Once the students completed building the iterative process began. Very important part of the engineering process.
- Shannon also worked with private schools, homeschools and teacher workshops. Teachers were encouraged to apply for grant money for ROV costs. ROV kits are approximately \$150 per kit. Students are encouraged to design and build their own ROV.
- There are several ROV kits for purchase: MATE-Angelfish <https://seamate.org>, Naval Academy "Sea Perch" Underwater ROV Kit <https://seaperch.org>
- Curriculum is available along with other educational resources are on the sanctuary website: <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/teachers/>

Anyone who is interested in reaching out to Shannon for more information her contact information is: Shannon.ricles@noaa.gov, Cell Phone: 757-390-8874

Q&A:

Dale Currier: (1) Excellent ROV presentation. Need to proactively reach out to schools and future generations; (2) Recommend the CG auxiliary and former power squadron put up passive displays on safe boating; (3) Excited about the lecture series. Suggestion to have experts come to local and state campgrounds for evening presentations on the history of LO.

Ken Kozin: Newly retired teacher taught ROV to students for over 20 years. Can do this on the cheap. Kids were extremely excited about building and competing their ROVs. Class was extremely popular and had to turn away students.

Ben Heckethorn: Tunes in regularly to Shannon Ricles' North Carolina webinar series. Topics are interesting, run on time and provide professional development hours. Would love to see something like this in Lake Ontario in terms of education.

Ray Tucker: Lake Champlain has a number of wooden shipwrecks and has a boat who has ROV on board for tours. When discussing our resource protection plan for the proposed sanctuary ROVs were singled out as a hazard to shipwrecks. People are concerned about damaging their ROV rather than a wreck.

Joe Hoyt: This is something we are looking at in developing for the proposed rule. Not a dramatic impact for small ROVs but concerned about larger ROVs that may run into a mast and more delicate structures on a shipwreck. Best practices should be in place to avoid damage to sites.

Phil Church: Shannon's ROV presentation and education programs is what the nomination task force was looking at six or seven years ago. Would like to organize a meeting and invite Shannon back to present to school districts (there has been turnover in superintendents since nomination).

Joe Hoyt, National Coordinator, Maritime Heritage

Conducted a project in August 2021 in Lake Huron and Lake Ontario (focusing mainly off of Horse Island). Approach was to have two new sanctuaries (Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast NMS and proposed Lake Ontario NMS) have an opportunity to become familiar with the lay of the land, infrastructure and develop partnerships to have a more sustained physical presence in these special places.

The project was funded through another NOAA office, National Ocean Service and the Office of Exploration and Research (OER) as well as other external universities and potential partners. OER focuses on grants that demonstrate innovations; this project focused on three approaches in using uncrewed vehicles to do survey work.

- UAV – Un-crewed Aerial Drone Magnetometry
 - Radio telemetry tower used to collect real time data from aerial drones. Good for shallow water imaging. Aerial drones allowed for greater coverage in larger areas.
- ASV - Autonomous Surface Vehicle Multibeam Sonar

- o University of Delaware and Team Ocean provided equipment for testing. 27-foot diesel fueled engine equipped with multibeam. Especially helpful in intertidal areas where other scientific platforms make access difficult.
- AUV - Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Side Scan Sonar
 - o Hyper-AUV system that can dive to 200 meters. Bathy-side scan system. Exciting tool and an opportunity to evaluate the efficacy of the system and monitor image quality. Easy to deploy and is not contingent on sea state conditions. Delivers clean and crisp images.

Preliminary results revealed the most successful element from a new deployment method was the aerial drone magnetometer. In Lake Huron this method provided steady navigation and great imagery results. Smaller anomalies were found near Horse Island from the AUV survey. Results are being finalized. Team also had an opportunity to have a public outreach event at Sackets Harbor and folks who came out were able to get a first hand look at the research equipment.

New Business

Mercedes Niess, H. Lee White Maritime Museum: On May 21-22, the H. Lee White Museum will host the Lake Ontario Waterfront Festival. The event will include rescue demos, children’s programs, Happy Pirates, music, food trucks and more. Dave White contacted the museum looking to make this a wider program to coincide with National Boating Week. Mayor Barlow from Oswego has given us the go ahead and is very excited about the expanded program. Mercedes is looking for SAC volunteers. Pam and Ellen will be there representing NOAA.

Dave White mentioned the annual boat show will be put off for yet another year due to lack of products. Dave sees this as a boating lifestyle event and is excited to partner with the museum, Sea Grant and the Coast Guard. The marina will offer a commercial opportunity to buy and sell used boats, provide safe boating demos, in-water demos and in-water ROV demos. More information to follow.

Shout Outs

- Congrats to Phil Church for signing on for two additional years as County Administrator
- Congrats to Dr. Bob Morgan receiving Oswego 2021 Health System Champion Award
- Congrats to Ed Mervine on his appointment to Judge
- Congrats to Joe Zarzynski on his newest book release “Lockend --Monster Hunting on the Run”

Next SAC Meeting: Thursday, April 21 from 6p – 8p. <https://meet.google.com/shs-vygb>

Public Comment:

None noted.

Motion to adjourn: Bob Morgan and Phil Church.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm:

Attendees:

NOAA/ONMS:

Ellen Brody, Great Lakes Regional Coordinator
Joe Hoyt, National Maritime Heritage Coordinator
Edward Lindelof, Senior Policy Analyst
Pam Orlando, LONMS Advisory Council Coordinator
Shannon Ricles, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Monitor and Mallows Bay-Potomac River NMS

Advisory Council:

Greg Boyer, Alternate, Citizen-at-Large (**absent**)
Brad Broadwell, Alternate, Economic Development (**absent**)
Shane Broadwell, Member, Economic Development (**absent**)
Tom Burke, Alternate, Recreational Fishing (**absent**)
Phil Church, Member, City of Oswego
Bill Crist, Member, Education (Chair)
Dale Currier, Member, Recreational Boating
Kristen Eichhorn, Alternate, Education
Peter Evans, Alternate, Tourism (**absent**)
Corey Fram, Member, Tourism (**absent**)
Susan Gately, Alternate, Maritime History & Interpretation (**absent**)
Dan Gildea, Alternate, Maritime History & Interpretation
Jeanie Gleisner, Member, Economic Development
Dave Granoff, Member, Economic Development
Robert Hagemann, County Administrator, Jefferson County
Ben Heckethorn, Member, Education
Rick House, County Administrator, Wayne County (**absent**)
Robert Humphrey, Alternate, Education
Jim Kennard, Member, Divers, Dive Clubs & Shipwreck Exploration
Ken Kozin, Alternate, Divers, Dive Clubs & Shipwreck Exploration
Steve Lynch, Member, AICP, Director (Cayuga)
Katie Malinowski, Member, Citizen-at-Large (Vice-Chair)
Janet Marsden, Alternate, Tourism (**absent**)
Jay Matteson, Alternate, Economic Development (**absent**)
Laura McLean, New York State Department of State
Ed Mervine, Member, Shoreline Property Owner
Robert Morgan, Member, Citizen-at-Large
Duane Morton, Alternate, Shoreline Property Owner
Mercedes Niess, Member, Maritime History & Interpretation
Katie Piazza, Alternate, Citizen-at-Large
Rebecca Shuford, Alternate, SUNY Oswego
Mark Slosek, Alternate, Recreational Boating
Gail Smith, Member, Recreational Fishing (**absent**)

Ray Tucker, Alternate, Divers, Dive Clubs & Shipwreck Exploration
Dave White, Member, SUNY Oswego
Jim Wieser, Member, Divers, Dive Clubs & Shipwreck Exploration
Brad Wilcox, Member, Coast Guard (**absent**)
Christine Worth, Alternate for Rick House (Wayne County)
Joseph Zarzynski, Member, Maritime History & Interpretation

Public:

Craig Boyce
Tim Caza
Charles Hutcheson
Dennis McCarthy
Michael Pittavino
Bob Sullivan