

MACPRA
August 7th, 2006
Meeting Minutes
Host: Lac Vieux Desert Community
Watersmeet, Michigan
AmericInn Meeting Room

Present:

Roger LaBine, LVD, MACPRA Vice Chairman
Giiwegizhgoonway Martin, LVD, MACPRA Treasurer
Joyce , LVD Cultural Program
Joe Mitchell, LTBB
Summer Cohen, KBIC
Michael Loukinen, NMU professor
Derrick Bailey, GTB
Donna Falcon, USFS Milwaukee, Region 9 Tribal government Liaison
Loreen Lomax, Heritage Program Manager, Ottawa National Forest
Cheri Ford, USFS Tribal Governmental Liaison, Ottawa & Hiawatha Forests in Michigan
Glenn Lamberg, American Indian Liaison, NRCS
Mike LaPointe, NRCS Area Conservationist for U.P.

Roger has complete list of attendees!

Cecil Pavlat, Chairman MACPRA had a relative walk on and was unable to attend! Roger Labine, Vice Chair will conduct meeting.

Meeting began with smudge, welcome and prayer by Joe Mitchell.

Roger welcomed everyone to the Lac Vieux Desert Indian Community and hoped that many could stay on after the meeting to enjoy the wild rice conference.

Roger explained that the MACPRA Secretary, Sharron Detz would not be able to make the meeting; and asked Glenn Lamberg to record the minutes of the meeting.

Changes in agenda:

Glenn Lamberg, NRCS asked that an agenda item be that MACPRA give direction/suggestions on NRCS consulting with tribes.

Motion made by Derrick Bailey and seconded by Joe Mitchell to accept the agenda with the above addition.

Minutes from last meeting were reviewed by those present and approved. Motion by Giwee & seconded by Summer; then approved by those present.

Treasurer's Report was handed out and explained by Giiwegizhgoonway:

No expenses

Balance in treasury as of August 7th, 2006: \$2857.31

Roger asked for discussion on treasurer's report

Motion made by Summer Cohen and seconded by Joe Mitchell that the treasurer's report

Old Business:

1. **Non Profit 501C3 Status:** Roger Labine

- a. It was explained that the paperwork is completed and a final decision needs to be made by MACPRA to send in the materials. Roger stated that Cecil would like a consensus of tribes. Roger stated that the roll call at last meeting at Bay Mills identified 6 tribes in favor. Roger stated that he would like to roll call those tribes present today that were not at BMCC in June:
Grand Traverse Band-Derrick Bailey- Yes
Lac Vieux Desert- Giiwegizhgookway-Yes
- b. Roger will inform Cecil to proceed as soon as possible for filing for the 501 C3 status with Angela Sherigan.
- c. Angela is to contact Giway for a check for \$750 for the filing application for the 501 C3 status.

2. **Getting tribes in other states to give authority to MACPRA for dealing with other burials found in Michigan.**

- a. Cecil and Glenn will make efforts to contact Versonica Pasfield, U of M graduate student to assist MACPRA in getting letters out to tribes that have had historical presence in Michigan. The letters from MACPRA to these tribes will indicate MACPRA's efforts and accomplishments and explain that if MACPRA has written approval from other tribes then there will be less problems with findings of human remains related to unaffiliated tribal presence.
- b. A report on progress will be provided at the October meeting.

New Business:

1. **Ford River Cemetery:**

- a. The Hannahville Indian Community is in the process of stabilizing eroding banks on the Ford River in Delta County. Earl Meshigaud, HIC Tribal NAGPRA coordinator may need help with interring burials at the site during construction.
- b. Mike LaPointe, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Area Conservationist for the U.P. explained that although there does not seem to be many burials in the area that has been designated as a cemetery, further on site investigations are revealing a larger area of burials. Mike explained that there is a possibility that construction could start this fall, but most likely it would be spring 2007.
- c. Earl Meshigaud has asked that help be provided by other tribal NAGPRA representatives if the need arises. There was support by MACPRA that this could be done.
- d. Those present representing tribes suggested that Earl Meshigaud write a message to MACPRA stating what is being requested: Time to assist Earl? Time of MACPRA members to do work when Earl would not be present? Other things?
- e. Hannahville Indian Community and MACPRA should consider a request to the Hiawatha USFS Supervisor in Escanaba with a CC: to the Region 9 office in Milwaukee.
Hiawatha USFS: Leanne Marten 231 775-5023, ext 1-8710
- f. There would be the possibility that USFS Archeologist Loreen Lomax at Ironwood to help out.
Loreen J. Lomax,
Heritage Program Manager
Ottawa National Forest
E6248 US2
Ironwood, MI 49938
llomax@fs.fed.us
(906) 932-1330 ext. 313
(906) 932-0122

- g. **USDA Forest Service, USDA NRCS and MACPRA will consider training on site for employees at the Ford River site. This could be a combined training/working session. Training would be provided to the USDA employees as well as MACPRA/Tribal persons. This would be best planned for spring 2007.**
 - h. **Loreen mentioned there would be a Great Lakes Archeology program in October and she would ask if there are persons that could help out with the Ford River site also.**
- 2. Newaygo County Burials:**
(Large area of burials have been identified in Newaygo County, MI and MACPRA feels an onsite investigation is needed)
- a. Glenn Lamberg whose office is in Newaygo County described how the burials were identified and that the Little River Band (LRB) has visited the site and concurs that there is validity to the findings.
 - b. Cecil Pavlat and Dan Shepard, LRB NAGPRA representative have visited on this situation at MACPRA meetings in the past, but it appears that possibly it is time to move ahead on this concern.
 - c. Donna Falcon, USFS Region 9 Tribal Government Liaison will meet with the Region 9 supervisor regarding the Newaygo County Burials to work out a plan of what needs to be done to identify this area as a true burial site and if so protect the site.
 - d. Dan Shepard is to be included in all correspondence with MACPRA and USFS on this subject.
 - e. It was discussed that possibly a field investigation that would involve the Manistee National Forest, and MACPRA would be conducted, possibly during the fall of 2006.
- 3. NRCS guidance on consultation process:**
- a. Glenn asked that MACPRA representatives give him guidance on what they considered to be the appropriate activities that lead to proper consultation. Is the agreement with MACPRA and NRCS a good example of consultation? Is more needed to insure that USDA NRCS is adequately consulting with Tribes?
 - b. Glenn gave an example of a policy that he is working with the Michigan NRCS State Conservationist, Jack Bricker regarding relations with tribes on conservation programs. What do individuals at the table today suggest that NRCS do to make sure that consultation has occurred prior to NRCS's adoption of a policy?
 - c. Guidance provided to USDA NRCS:
 - i. Derrick Bailey, GTB- Send a copy of the proposal to the natural resources staff for their review with guidance to provide guidance and comments. If the NR staff feels the council will need to review this then they will get the councils review. Derrick further explained that a process must be established with each tribe, because each tribe has different levels of business and items that occupy there time.
 - ii. Roger Labine, LVD- Have George Beck review the materials and provide comments. There should be a process to relay a copy to the Chairperson also.
 - iii. Other comments led to the point that there is no one set method of consultation that is appropriate to all tribes in Michigan. It will be based on each individual tribe and the level of impact that the item to be consulted on plays in the life of the tribal community. Some items will require the council be contacted directly.
- 4. Roger invited a short talking circle and he started by asking Glenn Lamberg if he would be at the October meeting due to his retirement on September 30th. Glenn explained that he would not be attending since would not be an official USDA employee anymore.**
- a. Roger explained that Glenn even though he would not be representing USDA NRCS. Roger also thanked Glenn for working so closely with MACPRA and working on the MOU with MACPRA & NRCS and doing what was needed to get that process in place.
 - b. Joe Mitchell also thanked Glenn for his contributions and dedication to MACPRA's efforts.
 - c. Glenn explained that Mike LaPointe would be working with MACPRA when they were in the UP and that Mike would keep MACPRA informed of the project on the Ford River Burial site.

Marquette, MI

ph: 906-226-8871 michael.lapointe@mi.usda.gov

- d. Glenn thanked MACPRA for the guidance they have provided to Glenn individually and for NRCS. Glenn explained that the relationship with MACPRA has been a great cultural and spiritual experience as well as a great opportunity for NRCS to properly work on cultural protection. It is so nice that MACPRA has been so proactive on working with agencies, such as NRCS.
- e. Derrick Bailey graciously thanked Roger and the LVD Community for hosting the meeting and providing the goody bags and food for those present.

Agenda items for the October 25th, 2006 meeting to include:

- **Election of Officers-** nominations need to be sent in to Cecil from the tribes, including their names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. Roger encouraged others than present officers to run for the position.
- **Training Component:**

It was discussed by those in attendance at this meeting that the October meeting of MACPRA include a component of training related to internments and how to handle this process. The 106 process for MACPRA and Federal Agencies was also another topic of training that is needed.

Future meetings could be conducted by the USFS and MACPRA and those invited to attend would be USDA NRCS, USFS and also all tribal community representatives in Michigan. The next meeting will be at Mt. Pleasant at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Community. This will need to be coordinated with Bonnie Ekdahl.

Loreen's presence would be appreciated by MACPRA. USFS, US NRCS and MACPRA will work on this jointly.

Other USFS names that were mentioned to be contacted were:

John Franzen
Heritage Program Manager
Hiawatha National Forest
2727 N. Lincoln Road
Escanaba, MI 49829
jfranzen@fs.fed.us
906-789-3308 or 906-786-4062
906-789-3311 (fax)

John Davis, Manistee National Forest, Cadillac

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm and Roger reminded everyone that buses will be leaving for the pow wow feast at the ceremonial grounds at 5 pm. Everyone was invited!

Minutes were recorded by: Glenn Lamberg and reviewed by Roger Labine