

## MACPRA Meeting Minutes

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Ontario Room 1, Kewadin Resort

Sault Ste. Marie. MI.

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Roll Call:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Pavalat at 9:15 a.m. Those present were as follows: Cecil Pavalat/SSM; Paul Yarnell, Native American Society for Historical Preservation, Inc; Roger LaBine, LVD THPO representative; Angela Sherigan, American Indian Law Section; Glenn Lamberg USDA-NRCS; Nick Reo, SSM, MSUE; Wendy Sexton, USDA Rural Development; John Causely, Mackinaw Band;

**Opening:** Smudge and Prayer by Cecil Pavlat

**Welcome:** By Cecil Pavlat, Chair, SSM. Cecil explained that the July 2005 meeting was not held due to busy schedule of everyone.

Sharron Detz, secretary not available, Glenn asked to do minutes.

**Introductions:** Those present introduced themselves.

**Minutes** from previous May & June meetings were presented & Reviewed.

Motion made by LaBine & seconded by Pavlat to accepted the minutes from the May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting. Motion passed.

Motion made by LaBine & seconded by Pavlat to accepted the minutes from the June 22, 2005 meeting. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's report** was presented by Roger LaBine for Giiway, MACPRA Treasurer. The printed out of financial resources from the Settler's Cooperative Credit Union was presented. The balance of funds available to MACPRA at this time is:

\$1252.91.

### Old Business:

- **Correctional facility-Anishinaabek Spirituality coordination:** Correction facilities were provided an educational tape to be used for guards at these facilities. The video tape detailed the spiritual activities of Anishinaabek people and guidance for tolerance of those using those spiritual practices.
  - The tape was adequate for use for now.
  - The video tape needs to be found, duplicated and provided to correctional facilities soon.
  - Mr. Burnette, State Correction Facilities Coordinator, and Donna Budnick, MDCR are working on better coordination.
  - On November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 in the Grand Rapids Museum there will be a fund raising program to generate funds for spiritual leaders to cover costs to visit correction facilities. These funds could be used for:
    - Spiritual leaders to provide training for facility guards.
    - Spiritual leaders costs related to visiting American Indian inmates.
    - Other possible related costs.
  - Funds raised at the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 program will be administered by American Indian Law Section.

- Angela will be sending out information regarding the fund raiser to MACPRA: When, where and who should attend.
- A meeting to further advance discussion on the correctional facility situation will be set up after the November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005 fund raiser.

NOTE: Glenn to get Mr. Burnette's email address for MACPRA from Donna Budnick.

- **Discussion of Dues & Donations** regarding the amounts and times for collection. Motion made by LaBine that dues for membership become due as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Seconded by Pavlat. No further discussion.  
**Vote to be held via email for all tribes to vote.**
- **Non Profit Status:** Angela Sherigan reviewed the status of the MACPRA 501 C3 application.
  - Angela explained that at the June meeting the pro's and con's of becoming a 501 C3 non profit were discussed. It appeared that the pro's far out weighed the con's.
  - The bylaws and articles of incorporation were reviewed by all present at this meeting. Typo's and other clerical improvements were made.
  - A location address will be needed to be identified. The MACPRA group felt it would be ideal to have the address be with the Saginaw Chippewa Community. Cecil will check with Bonnie Ekdahl on this. The address will need to be determined before the 501 C3 application can be filed.
  - The register address will be the law office address, so that all legal items to Angela and she can take care of yearly updates as needed.
  - There is a need for the MACPRA secretary to get all the mailings regarding to the non profit status. This will need to be determined.
  - Appropriate changes to the bylaws were made to match all sections of the bylaws. For example:
    - The directorship of MACPRA stays with tribes that are members of MACPRA. The voting members of MACPRA are the member tribes of this non profit organization.
    - Future membership of the MACPRA non profit will be determined by the directorship.
    - The directors (chair, vice-chair, secretary & treasurer) will be determined by member tribes.

**Motion made by Roger LaBine to approve the articles of incorporation and have Angela Sherigan file the 501 C3 application once the home office address is determined. Motion seconded by Cecil Pavlat. No further discussion. **Vote to be held by emailing all member tribes.****

#### **New Business:**

**MACPRA Website:** Nathan Wright is to have the photos from the Reburial process on the MACPRA website. Guidance on the subject of photos was provided during the meeting.

**Young Site, Imlay City, Goodland Township-Potential Land disturbance**

Landowner wants to put in a gravel pit. There are numerous burials and also other culturally important sites on the property. It appears that this is a site on the National Register of historic sites.

Kathy Martin is an individual involved in this site.

Glenn suggested that the landowner be contacted encourage to apply for finances through the Farmland Protection Program to leave this site undisturbed. MACPRA leadership will take this under consideration and be in contact with Glenn at USDA on this.

### **NAGPRA Grant:**

The Sag Chip tribe has received a NAGPRA grant that will cover the health hazards of handling human remains from the U of Michigan Museum. MACPRA will be an advisor in this process and the funding should provide travel assistance to MACPRA members.

### **Reports:**

#### **Glenn Lamberg, American Indian Liaison, USDA NRCS discussed:**

##### Black Ash and Emerald Ash Borer:

- ❑ It appears that the Emerald ash borer continues to be expanding the area of infestation.
- ❑ The collection of seeds needs to be planned in the near future. Glenn handed out seed collection forms and details. collection forms can also be found at: <http://www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/pmc.html>
- ❑ Ash Seed Collection Field Demonstration, September 15, 2005, 9:00am-3:00pm, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Operations, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Contact Sally Kniffen at [SKniffen@sagchip.org](mailto:SKniffen@sagchip.org) for more information.

##### Financial help available to protect Mother Earth

- ❑ Reminder: The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has established a cost list of projects solely for tribes. This puts all desired practices that tribes would like to receive **cost sharing** assistance with NRCS at 75% of the cost. NRCS programs are not grant programs, but cost sharing with project promoters to improvement and help Mother Earth. Projects can include such projects as:
  - Fisheries improvement projects
  - Wildlife habitat improvement work
  - Reestablishment of pre European plant species
  - Wild rice reestablishment
  - Solving erosion projects that exist in communities
  - Other projects?

**“Protecting Mother Earth usually results in protecting our cultural values and traditions.”**

- ❑ Glenn asked MACPRA for ideas and historically correct documentation of Michigan’s Anishinaabek agriculture. Glenn’s contacts with tribal leaders and communities indicate a rich history of growing crops long before European contact. Please let me know what you think! Please give me direction!

**Nick Reo, American Indian Liaison, Michigan State University Extension**

Nick discussed land conservancy and the values of MACPRA establishing a relationship with conservancies in Michigan. Nick explained that the goals of conservancies were to protect land areas from development and disturbances for future generations to have and enjoy.

Conservancy objectives could possibly match with MACPRA's objectives in preserving areas from disturbance, plus conservancies may be a good partnership with funding opportunities to protect those sites that MACPRA deems cultural important to protect.

**Wendy Sexton, American Indian Liaison, USDA Rural Development**

Wendy and MACPRA members discussed the MOU opportunity that existed for MACPRA and RD to work/consult on undertakings that were going on within the State of Michigan. Wendy will take this issue to her State Office and explain the needs and values of such a MOU.

Discussion was held on those tribes that had historical presence in Michigan and were not represented by MACPRA. Cecil explained that it is MACPRA's desire to write/communicate with tribes that have had historic presence in Michigan and ask them for written approval for MACPRA to act in their behalf on all cultural activities in Michigan. Cecil and Glenn will work on this issue.

Glenn is to get digital copy of MACPRA-NRCS MOA to Wendy.

**Next Meeting:** Fourth Wednesday of Month is September 28th, 2005.  
KBIC \_\_\_\_\_ (tribe) will host the meeting at Baraga, MI \_\_\_\_\_ (city).

**Close Meeting:** Motion by LaBine to adjourn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pavlat. Adjourned at 3:30  
PM

Minutes taken by:  
Glenn Lamberg for Sharon Detz