**Meeting July 17, 2018**

Present: Commissioners

Karin Cooper, Houghton County

Dave Geisler, Village of Calumet

Bob Langseth, Calumet Township

Larry Lankton, at-large

Scott MacInnes, State of Michigan

Absent: Amy Berglund, at-large

John Sullivan, Franklin and Quincy Townships

Present: Executive Director

Scott See

Present: National Park Service

Jo Holt, Historian

Present: Recording Secretary

John Arnold

Present: Guests

Judy Albee

Steve Albee

Pam Hawley, Houghton County Historical Society

Lindsay Hiltunen, Archivist, Michigan Tech Archives

Kim Hoagland

Larry Molloy, Keweenaw County Historical Society

Nancy Molloy, Keweenaw County Historical Society

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission was called

to order at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 17, 2018, at the Keweenaw NHP Headquarters in Calumet,

Michigan.

**Approval of Minutes of April 17, 2018**

Moved by Karin Cooper and seconded by Scott MacInnes to approve the minutes as corrected.

Motion carried unanimously. (5/0).

**Executive Director’s Report**

Executive Director Scott See reported on how the goals of the Advisory Commission were

supported during the quarter.

**Advise the National Park Service at Keweenaw National Historical Park on park planning,**

**preservation, interpretation, and operational matters.**

See began by reporting that the Commission has signed a contract with Quinn Evans Architects

to complete an amendment to the Calumet National Historic Landmark district. This work will

start in August with a site visit by the contactor and will likely continue through summer 2019.

As with the nearly-completed Quincy National Historic Landmark (NHL) Amendment, the

Calumet review will be focused on analyzing the existing boundaries to determine if they require

adjustment due to changes since the establishment of the landmark in 1989. The Commission has

also received notice from Washington that the Quincy NHL Amendment will require some

additional fieldwork before final completion; an addendum to the original scope of work

document has been created and is currently under review by the contractor.

**Develop the Keweenaw Heritage Sites Program into a consortium of fully sustainable sites.**

See reported a strong turnout at the Spring Heritage Site meeting on May 8th. Representatives

from 15 Sites participated in the session. The group heard a presentation from the Pure Michigan

group in Lansing, and then travel reports from See and KNHP Ranger Katie Keller from their

recent trips to partnership parks in Massachusetts.

See related the unfortunate news that the “Father’s Day Flood” negatively impacted two Heritage

Sites: both the Houghton County Historical Society and the Copper Range Museum suffered

damage to their buildings and collections. The park’s Museum Division has provided physical

and technical assistance, and the Commission was able to provide some financial assistance

through a GoFundMe campaign established by the Historical Society of Michigan.

**Develop partnerships that provide visitors with a cohesive, accessible, and engaging**

**national park experience along the entire length of the Keweenaw.**

Fortunately, See reported, the Quincy Smelter experienced only very minor surface damage from

the flooding, and although the sump in the Machine Shop filled with water, the situation was

easily remedied by NPS facilities personnel.

In addition, REJ Contracting has completed the new roof on the Smelter Office Building, and

Mannik Smith completed the removal of some possible asbestos-containing materials at the site.

Finally, the NPS regional office (Omaha) has received supplemental funding to analyze the

operational and remaining environmental costs involved with the potential NPS ownership of the

smelter; these analyses are slated to begin in the fall of this year.

**Promote a historic preservation ethic and emphasize heritage awareness.**

See reported that the Keweenaw Heritage Grant Program review committee selected 18

applications for funding – a total of $150,266 in project funds (chosen from 25 grant applications

this year). All but three of these organizations have received their funding, and many of the

projects are well underway.

On April 26 the park held the 16th Annual High School Local History Smackdown. See reprised

his role as Quizmaster for the popular event, and noted with satisfaction the number of

participants interested in learning about local history and its national significance.

**Develop the Commission into a sustainable operating organization.**

In May, See led a tour of the Quincy Smelter for U.S. Senator Peters and some of his staff--the

Senator’s first visit to the site that he had heard much about in previous meetings with See and

Commissioners. In addition, State Representative Scott Dianda, Jay Gage (UP Regional Manager

for U.S. Senator Stabenow’s office), and candidates Matt Morgan and Ken Summers received

tours of the Visitor Center and of the smelter. The Commission and its director are grateful for

these opportunities to share the park and partnership activities.

In late May, See met with National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation (NPLSF) board president

Sona Mehring and new board member Ellen Kluz, both of whom were visiting the area. As

NPLSF is the designated philanthropic group for the park, See led Mehring and Kluz on a tour of

the Calumet Unit and provided an overview of recent activities of the park and the Advisory

Commission.

Finally, during the quarter See attended the Society for Industrial Archeology’s annual

conference, held this year in Richmond, Virginia. In addition to attending several relevant

academic paper sessions, See toured several industrial-themed heritage sites to learn how they

preserved and interpreted important industrial resources.

**Commission Committees and Projects**

**Announcements / Executive**

None.

**Budget / Finance**

Karin Cooper reported that the Commission has reviewed the financial statements and quarterly

bills, from April 18, 2018 to July 17, 2018.

Moved by Cooper and seconded by MacInnes to approve bills in the amount of $188,282.42,

plus wages and tax payments of $15, 928.28 for $204,210.70 total. Motion carried

unanimously. (5/0).

Moved by Cooper and seconded by Geisler to make a donation in the amount of $2,000.00 to

GoFundMe accounts established by the Historical Society of Michigan to assist Copper Range

Historical Society and Houghton County Historical Society with flood damage remediation.

Motion carried unanimously. (5/0).

**Superintendent’s Report**

Park Historian Jo Holt provided an overview of recent news and summaries of key

accomplishments of the various park divisions.

Holt reported that park Historical Architect John Rosemurgy has returned from his second detail

to Puerto Rico where he conducted post-hurricane condition assessments of curatorial facilities,

museums, and libraries. Rosemurgy’s projects at the park this summer include overseeing the

installation of central air conditioning in the headquarters building, and directing the joint NPSAdvisory Commission-Quincy Mine Hoist Association youth crew that has been hard at work on

projects at the Quincy Mine, including the removal of non-historic asphalt shingle siding from

civil war-era housing on the site.

Landscape Architect Steve Delong has been working on the Quincy Mine Office landscape

rehabilitation project, including improvements to subsurface drainage systems and the

reconstruction of a historic fence that once delineated the perimeter of the site. Along US 41 at

the park headquarters, several trees have been pruned back, while a number of unhealthy trees

have been removed altogether as advised by an arborist. New trees will be planted to replace

those removed.

Museum Services staff have been assisting the Houghton County Historical Society with cleanup

and damage mitigation caused by the Father’s Day Flood, and volunteers with the division have

been busy cataloging accessions, making the collections more accessible to researchers. Chief of

Museum Services Brian Hoduski reported that there have been 244 reference requests this year,

with around 60 made this quarter alone.

Holt reported that the interpretation and education division is now moving into the busiest time

of the year, as July, August, and September welcome a full ¾ of the annual visitorship to the

park. “Adventure Hikes,” longer extended tours led by park rangers have been very popular, with

35-50 attendees participating at recent hikes at Cliff Mine and around Calumet Lake.

Finally, Holt reported on Copper TRACES, the popular outreach event now in its third

consecutive year. Sixty volunteers helped to ensure its success, which this year featured 21

activity stations focused on sharing Copper Country history with the 540 4th-graders who

attended. The National Park Foundation and the Advisory Commission support this project, and

applications are underway for funding next year’s event.

Other reports from Commissioners

Commissioner Geisler reported that the master plan has been approved by the planning

commission, and it will be presented to the Village Council tonight for a vote to adopt.

Commissioner Lankton praised the success of the High School Local History Smackdown, and

called attention to the vital role that the coaches play in leading a team to a win, acknowledging

in particular Cathy Hill, coach for this year’s winning Dollar Bay-Tamarack City team. Lankton

also announced that he will be speaking on July 26th at the old hoist house at Quincy Mine about

his involvement in the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) work documenting the

Quincy Mining Company.

Commissioner Cooper, as representative of Houghton County and project architect for the

proposed jail addition to the country courthouse, invited comments from the public to be

addressed to her directly via email at kcooper@upea.com.

Commissioner Langesth reported that the Houghton County Historical Society (HCHS) Heritage

Center (in the former First Congregational Church of Lake Linden) is currently housing a

substantial portion of the HCHS collections, where they were removed to relative safety

following the Father’s Day flood event. Langseth also reported that the Quincy Dredge, owned

by the HCHS, is in danger of collapse, but that solutions for preventing this are unclear. See

noted that a “Friends of the Dredge” group, if formed, could provide a good start for

organizational efforts.

**Comments from Legislators or Legislative Staff**

Nothing to report.

**Comments from Keweenaw Heritage Site Representatives**

Larry Molloy with the Keweenaw County Historical Society (KCHS) began by thanking the

Advisory Commission for this year’s Heritage Grant, and reported that work is underway in the

lighthouse. Molloy also noted that the marine catwalk reconstruction, funded by a Heritage Grant

two years ago, is nearly completed. The KCHS annual dinner will be held in September at

Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, and will feature KNHP archivist Jeremiah Mason presenting

vintage “home movies” from the Keweenaw.

Pam Hawley with Houghton County Historical Society (HCHS) thanked everyone for their

donations and assistance with the flood damage, and reported that she is leading a major project

to accession the collections. Hawley also noted that in addition to the Heritage Center in Lake

Linden, significant portions of the collection are being housed at the Log Cabin and the

Schoolhouse.

Lindsay Hiltunen with the Michigan Tech Archives presented several updates on their work over

the past quarter. The three staff archivists have been working with several Heritage Sites as well

as the community at large on flood damage abatement. Hiltunen suggested that this tragedy serve

as a call to devise emergency response plans across the partner sites in advance of the next

disaster.

Comments from the Public

Nothing to report.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Moved to adjourn by Geisler, and seconded by Cooper at 1:45 p.m. Motion carried

unanimously. (5/0).

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday, October 17, 2018.