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THE WESTERLY VIEW

NEWS & HAPPENINGS FROM THE WESTERN REGION

WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGION

Volume 1, Issue 4

WUPPDR Open House, An Invitation...

Summer, 2008

As part of WUPPDR's year-long 40th anniversary, the staff and commission are pleased to invite you to our offices for an Open House on Monday, June 16, 2008. We encourage you to stop in and meet the staff from 3 PM to 4 PM EDT. Our address is 393 E. Lakeshore Drive in Houghton, MI.

Following the open house, a regular full commission meeting (open to the public) will be held starting at 4 PM EDT in the UPPCO building conference room located one block from the WUPPDR office at 600 E Lakeshore Drive in Houghton. Carlton Crothers, CEO of the MTEC SmartZone will welcome you with an introduction to MTEC and the SmartZone program. The meeting will be followed by a summer cookout. If you plan on attending the cookout please RSVP by calling 906.482.7205 ext. 310 no later than June 13, 2008. We look forward to seeing you there!



Find us on the Web: www.wuppdr.org

Recreation Plans—5 Reasons Not to Wait



Do you know where your Recreation Plan is? More importantly is it current? For those of you unfamiliar, a Recreation Plan is

a document that assists communities in outlining recreation and conservation goals and objectives to establish recreation grant eligibility from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). Plans need to be updated every 5 years to remain eligible for programs such as the Land & Water Conservation Fund, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, and the Coastal Zone Management Program.

Here are 5 reasons why applicants should consider updating their Recreation Plans sooner rather than later.

1. Allow for ample time to generate community buy-in and support to create a comprehensive plan that will guide actions to accomplish planning goals.
2. WUPPDR requests eligible entities to contact us by October 1, 2008 to discuss 2009 recreation planning needs.
3. Recreation Plans require a minimum 30 day review period before adoption.
4. April 1, 2009—Deadline for Recreation Plan submittals and Deadline for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant applications.
5. March 1, 2009—Deadline for Land & Water Conservation Fund grant applications.

Every winter the WUPPDR office receives several phone calls requesting assistance for Recreation Plan updates, amendments, and submitting MDNR

grant applications. When these calls come in January & February the applicant and WUPPDR rush to complete the plan and application requirements to meet deadline dates. Now, we are asking you to help us help you better.

So please dig out those Recreation Plans this summer to determine if yours is about to expire. Additionally, if there is a new project you would like to pursue, but it is not identified in your Plan, you may need to do an amendment. Let us know if we can help.

We look forward to discussing your planning needs and our planning solutions. Please visit www.wuppdr.org/downloads.htm for samples of our work. For more information on recreation planning and DNR grant opportunities visit www.mich.gov/dnr/ or call our offices today!

DID YOU KNOW?

WUPPDR HAS BEEN IN ITS CURRENT LOCATION, THE HELMAN CENTER, SINCE JUNE, 1981...27 YEARS! STOP IN TO SEE US ON JUNE, 16, 2008 FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE

WUPPDR STAFF:

KIM STOKER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LORI HAUSWIRTH
ASSOCIATE PLANNER

MEG PACHMAYER
ASSISTANT PLANNER

JIM LAMUTH
ASSISTANT PLANNER/
TRANSPORTATION
COORDINATOR

COURTNEY ARCHAMBEAU
HOUSING SPECIALIST

KEN MARSHALL
GIS SPECIALIST

STEVE ROUSER
GIS TECHNICIAN

MARY TADDEUCCI
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SUE HARTER
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

AMY SPAHN
FINANCIAL AIDE

What Happened to Mary & Sue? Our New Phone System



Can you imagine working every day, weekend, night, and holiday and never calling in sick or taking a vacation in over 20 years of service? Would you be ready for retirement? Well our aging phone system felt it was time to relax, see the world and take cooking classes. After lengthy consideration we finally bid farewell to our manual phone system this past winter.

The WUPPDR staff, with Commission support, imple-

mented a new automated phone system in February. As many of you have experienced, when you dial the WUPPDR number you are greeted by a recording and provided a directory. Now you can access WUPPDR staff directly and leave voice mail if necessary.

We would like to thank you for your patience during the transition, and while we are all

adjusting to the new system, Mary and Sue appreciate the extra time to devote to their other 783 tasks. If you have any recommendations or ideas to improve the system please contact Meg Pachmayer at 906.482.7205 ext 315.

And if you miss talking to Mary and Sue, or ever need assistance and are unsure who to contact, their extensions are 310 and 311 respectively.

Oops—Setting the Record Straight



In our last Westerly View (Spring Vol.1 Iss. 3) we had an article about Copper Country Trail and the land acquisition on top of Brockway Mountain. We stated that the land was purchased with a National Scenic Byway Grant by Keweenaw County, but the correct owner is Keweenaw County Road Commission. We apologize for the mistake and any confusion this may have caused.



The Westerly View

June UPEDA Meeting

The next meeting of the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance (UPEDA) will be held in Watersmeet on Thursday, June 19, 2008. The day long meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. Central Time and extends to 2:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to learn about the economic de-



velopment efforts occurring in our Region and the entire U.P.

The Executive Directors of the U.P. Regional Planning Commissions—Western Region’s Kim Stoker, Central Region’s Lloyd Matthes, and Eastern Region’s Jeff Hagen—will be presenting on aspects of each organization.

Other presenters include U.P. Engineering & Architects, Carlton Crothers—MTEC Smart-

Zone CEO, and other agencies.

There will be plenty of time for networking along with ample opportunities to ask questions. Meeting fees are \$20 for members and \$35 for non-members, and this does include the lunch.

Visit the UPEDA website at <http://www.upeda.org/> to sign up for the meeting, view a copy of the tentative agenda, or learn how to become a member.

Free Community Event-Trail Building School

**Please note that WUPPDR is not affiliated with the following project. However we feel that an event like this can be of great resource to members of our Region.*



A FREE Trail Building School will be offered in Copper Harbor on Saturday, August 2nd and

Sunday, August 3rd. The Subaru/IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) Trail Care Crew will travel to the Keweenaw as part of their effort to teach the art and science of trail building across the United States.

Although the Trail Building School is mountain bike focused, the sustainable trail concepts presented can be applied to all types of trails.

If you would like to receive additional information on the Trail Care Crew's visit to

the Keweenaw, or to reserve a spot in the FREE Trail Building School, please visit www.copperharbortrails.org

Please encourage those responsible for trails in your community to take advantage of the FREE School so we are building trail systems for the future not just today.

Thank you Keweenaw Trekkers, Michigan Tech Trails, Swedetown Bike Trails/Great Deer Chase and Copper Harbor Trails Club for bringing this great event to the UP!

Michigan Tech Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Michigan Tech Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is getting closer to completion. The University contracted with WUPPDR to develop the Plan, currently in the draft stage, and it is available for public review and comment.



The Plan considers a number of variables that contribute to Michigan Tech’s vulnerability to potential natural, manmade and technological hazards, and concludes with a mitigation strategy

Plan development is guided by the Michigan Tech Disaster Resistant University Advisory Committee. Once the draft Plan

is finalized, Michigan Tech will adopt it before it will be sent to the State and Federal levels for final approval. For more information or comments, please contact Meg Pachmayer via e-mail at mpachmayer@wuppdr.org or by calling the office at 906.482.7205 ext. 315.

RC & D Watershed Study

In October, 2007 WUPPDR was awarded funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service through the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D) to conduct the third Rapid Watershed Assessment (RWA) in the State. The study will focus on the Keweenaw Bay area in Baraga County.

Typically, an RWA will provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, community organizations, and other stakeholders within a watershed. This assessment will help landowners and local leaders in Keweenaw Bay to identify and prioritize activities that best help to meet their goals.

A specific area of concern involves the effects culverts have on fisheries within watersheds. This summer, WUPPDR will be

identifying culverts on perennial rivers within the Keweenaw Bay watershed that prevent fish from traveling upstream to spawn. In addition, WUPPDR will use GIS tools to analyze identified culverts in addition to identifying areas in rivers that are affected by these culverts.

Information contained in an RWA can provide a solid start-

ing point for local stakeholders to use should they decide to proceed with a more detailed area-wide or watershed planning effort.

If you would like more information or have questions please contact Ken Marshall via e-mail at kmarshall@wuppdr.org or by calling the office at 906.482.7205 ext. 318.



WUPPDR Commission Meeting Schedule

THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH			
June	16	2008	Full Commission (Open House-Houghton)
July	21	2008	Executive Committee
August	18	2008	Executive Committee
September	15	2008	Full Commission (Annual Meeting-Gogebic County)
October	20	2008	Executive Committee
November	17	2008	Executive Committee
December	15	2008	Full Commission
January	19	2009	Executive Committee
February	16	2009	Executive Committee
March	16	2009	Full Commission
April	20	2009	Executive Committee
May	18	2009	Executive Committee

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT TULPPO'S RESTAURANT IN BRUCE CROSSING, MI EXCEPT THE JUNE AND SEPTEMBER MEETINGS. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND FULL COMMISSION MEET AT 5:00 PM (ET). MINUTES & RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE WUPPDR OFFICE.