**Meeting August 19, 2019**

Present: Commissioners

Karin Cooper, Houghton County

Bob Langseth, Calumet Township

Larry Lankton, at-large

Scott MacInnes, State of Michigan

John Sullivan, Quincy and Franklin Townships

Absent: Amy Berglund, at-large

Dave Geisler, Village of Calumet

Present: Executive Director

Sean Gohman

Present: National Park Service

Wendy Davis, Superintendent

Present: Recording Secretary

John Arnold

Present: Guests

Judy Albee

Steve Albee, Former Commissioner

Rick Allen, Keweenaw Report

Brad Barnett, Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau

Anita Campbell, Keweenaw County Historical Society

Paul Campbell

Jim Curtis, Sr.

Jim Curtis, Jr.

Kim Hoaglund, Former Commissioner

Lindsay Hiltunen, Archivist, Michigan Tech Archives

Larry Malloy, Keweenaw County Historical Society

Nancy Malloy, Keweenaw County Historical Society

Scott See, Former Executive Director, KNHP Advisory Commission

Brady Tervo

**Call to Order**

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

to order at 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2019, at the Keweenaw NHP Headquarters in

Calumet, Michigan.

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by John Sullivan and seconded by Scott MacInnes to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion carried unanimously. (5/0).

Approval of Minutes of April 30, 2019

Moved by John Sullivan and seconded by Bob Langseth to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously. (5/0).

**Executive Director’s Report**

As current Executive Director Sean Gohman has been seated but one week, former Executive

Director Scott See reported, for the very last time, 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 reported that there were no significant actions under this goal during the last quarter.

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

The Spring Heritage Site Meeting was held on May 30th, with 18 of the 21 sites represented by

attendance. In addition to the regular site reports, the group heard a presentation from Matt

Portfleet, President of Adventure Mining Company, about his trip to Poland to attend an

international mining conference, and a presentation about Michigan Tech’s Social Science

department and the types of projects that faculty are presently pursuing.

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

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

See reported that environmental contractors Mannik Smith and Clean Harbors have completed

the first phase of lead-based paint abatement at the Quincy Smelter. This phase focused on

removing peeling paint and applying an encapsulant in the smelter office building, as well as

removing lead dust and washing the painted surfaces in the engine house, boiler house, and

pump house addition. This project is the first of several phases that will take place over the next

few years in order to fully abate the remaining lead paint at the site.

The results from the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, discussed at the April 2019 KNHP

Advisory Commission meeting, are still pending. The National Park Service’s (NPS) Midwest

Regional Office initiated the report, and the completed document should help inform discussions

about the possible transfer of the smelter property to the NPS.

See reported that during the last quarter he led two tours of the smelter to NPS staff from the

Abandoned Mineral Lands program, which may have funding available to further assist with the

stabilization of the smelter. These initial visits focused on showcasing the area resources to the

NPS staff members who were very interested in follow-up discussions.

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

The 12th annual Heritage Grant Program was completed in May. As reported at the April 2019

Advisory Commission meeting, 27 applications were received, requesting $228,000 in grant

funds. The grant review committee awarded 16 grants totaling $137,861. Combined with the

matching funds and efforts contributed by the grant recipients, the Heritage Grant program will

help facilitate nearly $300,000 in preservation and interpretation projects this year.

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

See announced the finalization of the grant agreement with the NPS and the Advisory

Commission will again be receiving the full $250,000 authorization next year. This amount

includes $131,000 for another round of lead-based paint removal at the Quincy Smelter.

See also reported that six of the seven Commissioners are serving on expired appointments as the

Secretary of the Interior has yet to reply regarding reappointments or replacements.

Finally, See took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the Commission, the NPS staff, and

the park partners for the decade of support he received as Executive Director of the Advisory

Commission in furthering the mission of the park. This reflection was received with a hearty

round of applause from the Commission and the public in attendance.

Commission Committees and Projects

**Announcements / Executive**

None.

**Budget / Finance`**

John Sullivan reported that the Commission has reviewed the financial statements and quarterly

bills, from May 1, 2019 to August 19, 2019.

Moved by Sullivan and seconded by Cooper to approve bills in the amount of $258,086.51, plus

wages and tax payments of $20,556.77 for $ 278,618.28 total. Motion carried unanimously.

(5/0).

**Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Wendy Davis provided an overview of recent news and summaries of key

accomplishments of the various park divisions.

Davis began by reporting that a primary project underway for park staff is planning for the

rehabilitation of the C&H Warehouse #1 into the multipark curatorial facility (the consolidated

Lake Superior Collection Management Center, or LSCMC). Heritage sites and the general public

will be invited to participate in the planning process in the spring.

A three-person day labor crew began painting and repointing the exterior Calumet Visitor Center

in May, with completion anticipated this November.

Mundus Bishop Design and Anderson Hallas Architects 90% Draft Historic Structures Reports

(HSRs) for the Quincy Mine Office and C&H Library buildings were delivered to the park midAugust for review.

National Historic Landmark (NHL) boundary amendments for Quincy and Calumet are still

awaiting approval.

This year the YouthWork Crew completed work on the park and provided assistance to Heritage

Sites from July through mid-August.

The Jacob Riis exhibit materials have arrived and will be installed at the Visitor Center next

week. The exhibit, Jacob A. Riis: How the Other Half Lives, will be on display at the Calumet

Visitor Center from September 3 – October 20. This is the exhibit’s only showing in Michigan.

Multiple partners are working together improve connectivity of trails and locations in Calumet

and Laurium, including Main Street Calumet with a grant of support from Rivers and Trails

Conservation Association. Also, preliminary survey work to establish possible routes for

interpretive trails with the Quincy Mine Hoist Association is underway.

Finally, Davis graciously expressed her gratitude to See, not only for his work as Executive

Director of the Advisory Commission, but also for his

**Other reports from Commissioners**

Commissioner MacInnes welcomed Sean Gohman in his new role as Executive Director for the

Advisory Commission, and extended his thanks to Scott See for his years of service, noting in

particular See’s outstanding work in procuring the Quincy Smelter.

Commissioner Sullivan echoed these sentiments, and reported that the Quincy Mine Hoist

Association (QMHA) has completed the $220,000 replacement of railroad ties for the tram.

QMHA has also worked this year, investing $50,000 in preserving and restoring the exterior of

the hoist house.

Commissioner Lankton reported that he is preparing an article for publication relating the initial

Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) documentation of the Quincy Mine, and

examining the consequences of this work in terms of the Department of Social Sciences at

Michigan Tech and for Keweenaw National Historical Park.

Commissioner Cooper also thanked See for his excellent work, and welcomed Gohman to the

position of Executive Director.

Commissioner Langseth similarly thanked See and welcomed Gohman, and also thanked the

Advisory Commission on behalf of the Keweenaw Heritage Center at St. Anne’s for the grant

that helped with the purchase of new flooring that “turned the basement into a ballroom!”

**Comments from Legislators or Legislative Staff**

Nothing to report.

**Comments from Keweenaw Heritage Site Representatives**

Larry Malloy began by thanking See for all of his assistance to Keweenaw County Historical

Society over the years. Malloy also noted that the product of last year’s Heritage Grant – new

exhibits at the lighthouse – have been installed and have been very well received. This year’s

Grant is funding the repainting of the Phoenix church, which is planned to begin shortly. Finally,

Malloy thanked John Rosemurgy and John Sullivan for their assistance in assembling an

application for a Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program grant.

Lindsay Hiltunen echoed Malloy in thanking See for his service, and welcomed Gohman to his

new position. Hiltunen noted that a social media campaign is underway to raise awareness of the

Riis exhibit. The Archives have received a National Film Preservation Foundation (NFPF) grant

to preserve two Winter Carnival film reels, and a public screening of the digitized version will be

held when the work is complete. The Copper Range Railroad exhibit is touring a wide range of

area heritage sites; this was funded by a Heritage Grant.

Anita Campbell reported the good news that the Keweenaw County Road Commission (KCRC)

has elected to preserve the iconic smokestack at Gay, and to protect it with fencing. This news

was greeted with a hearty round of applause for the KCRC.

Comments from the Public

Judy Albee made the recommendation that the increased numbers and sophistication of visitors

to Quincy Mine site warrants a full-time paid interpretive staffperson.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Moved to adjourn by Sullivan, and seconded by MacInnes at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried

unanimously. (5/0).

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, October 15, 2019.