



Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group

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Minutes of the July 19, 2012, CAG meeting held at Lilac Cottage, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan respectfully submitted by Thomas Chefalo, acting as Recording Secretary of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group.

The July 19, 2012, meeting of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chair Susie Schreiber.

The Chair welcomed those in attendance and asked everyone to identify themselves and any group that they represent.

Attendance at the July 19, 2012 CAG Meeting:

Mike Adam	Lake County Health Department
John Bairstow	Concerned Citizen
Paul Biehl	Concerned Citizen
C. Todd Binning	Concerned Citizen
Larry Brewer	LaFarge Corporation
Penny Bouchard	Concerned Citizen
Tom Chefalo	Lake County Planning, Building & Development
Bob Chmielecki	Midwest Generation
Tim Drexler	U.S. EPA
Claudia Freeman	Waukegan Park District
Steve Jansen	Geographic Society of Chicago
Paul Kakuris	Concerned Citizen
Cherylyn McHugh	AKZO Nobel
Mike Joyce	U.S.EPA
John Ohl	Salmon Unlimited
Doug Ower	Sierra Club
Mike Prusila	Lake County Stormwater Management
Sharon Sandoval	North Shore Sanitary District
Susie Schreiber	Waukegan Harbor CAG
Nate Shipkowitz	Concerned Citizen
Jerry Sullivan	Concerned Citizen
Chris Tanner	Tanner Environmental
Tori Trauscht	Waukegan Harbor CAG
Terese van Donsel	Naval Station Great Lakes
Gerard Urbanozo	Lake County Health Department
Barbara Waller	First Baptist Church

GUESTS:

Mark Dalgaard	Concerned Citizen
Sandra Dalgaard	Concerned Citizen
Ivan Gomez	Cool Learning Experience
Kevin Holley	Foss Park District, Executive Director,
Steve Hungess	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Donna King	Foss Park District, Commissioner
Sean McBride	Cool Learning Experience
Diamond Williams	Cool Learning Experience

AGENDA

Attendees were asked if any changes needed to be made to the agenda. Todd Binning requested the addition of an information announcement regarding the September Beach Sweep be added to the agenda.

MINUTES

The June 2012 minutes were not addressed at this meeting.

UPDATES

USEPA

No updates were presented during this section of the meeting. Please see the U.S. EPA report under *CAG Business*, below.

IDNR

No updates were presented at this meeting.

IEPA

No update was presented at this meeting.

City of Waukegan

There was no update from the City, however, Susie Schreiber reported that Ron Laubach will be leaving the City and moving to Lucerne, Switzerland for 3 years. The City has contracted with Baxter & Woodman, Inc. to provide engineering services until the City Engineer position is filled. The acting engineer will be John Tierney.

CAG BUSINESS

GLRI RFP – status – Susie Schreiber and Tori Trauscht

- The Seeding, Propagation and Revegetation RFP will be out shortly.
- The Waukegan Dunes Herbaceous and Woody Invasive Species Removal RFP responses are under review by the technical committee and a contract will be awarded soon.
- The draft of the Benthic RFP is under review.

Johns Manville Superfund Site – Susie Schreiber

The CAG would like to review the composition of the seed mix that is proposed to be used on the Johns Manville site. Susie asked Mike Joyce of U.S. EPA to provide an update on the progress of remediation at the site at a future CAG meeting. Because of the site's proximity to the Waukegan Dunes and Illinois Beach State Park, the CAG would like Mike to convey to U.S. EPA staff the importance of completing the remediation of the settling pond as soon as possible.

Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel/Outer Harbor – Susie Schreiber

As of Friday, July 13th both phases 1 and 2 of the dredging projected were completed and the sand plug that was partially blocking the approach channel was removed. Susie thanked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for their work on the project and said that a request has been made for the bathometric survey data of the channel.

Cool Learning Experience – Barbara Waller

Three students who are participating in the Cool Learning Experience made short presentation about the projects that they've worked on at the harbor and Bowen Park.

Barbara also said that 8th grade students from the Cool Learning Experience trekked into the Waukegan River ravine where they heard a presentation on the geologic history of the lakefront.

Barbara also emphasized the importance to the future of Waukegan, the state and the nation of providing children with a strong educational foundation in technology and the environment.

Swallow Nesting site Location – Ivan Gomez

Ivan and several other students rafted under the public docks at the Waukegan harbor in order to locate swallow nests. They used GPS equipment to record the locations of the nests and shared documentation they created from that data. The contractors that are dismantling the docks as part of preparation for the final environmental dredge of the harbor are using the data to identify docks which cannot be removed until the swallow young have fully fledged.

Bowen Park Trash Collection – Sean McBride and Diamond Williams

Sean, Diamond, and others collected trash in Bowen Park. They mapped the locations where they found the trash with GPS equipment. They concluded that there are not enough trash receptacles in the park and used the GPS data to identify the most appropriate sites for new trash and recycling bins.

Volunteers Begin to Create Lakefront Signage – Susie Schreiber

Barbara Petersen has volunteered to create mock-ups of informational signs that the CAG Communications Committee suggested be placed along the lakefront.

Podcast – Jerry Sullivan

Mr. Sullivan produces a podcast covering the Waukegan lakefront and the arts community of Waukegan. It is called Art Lake Show. He invited those attending the meeting to participate in his project. He can be reached at 312-286-3962 or js@dcom.tv. The podcasts are available at SoundCloud.com. Interviews are recorded on Saturday mornings in Waukegan.

Record of Decision Amendment – OMC Plant 2 – Mike Joyce & Tim Drexler

U.S. EPA is amending the 2007 Record of Decision for cleanup of the PCB-contaminated soil and building media at the OMC Plant 2 site. Three small areas that contain elevated levels of PCBs present challenges to the cleanup action. These discoveries had not been anticipated when the Record of Decision was issued. The areas include beneath the Old Die Cast Building and the West and North Utility Corridors. U.S. EPA released a summary of proposed cleanup opinions titled *EPA Proposes Revised Cleanup Plan for Soil Pollution Outboard Marine Corp. Plant 2 Site July 2012*. U.S. EPA's preferred option is Option 3 – Capping, Vertical Barrier Wall, Institutional Controls, and Monitoring. Approximately 5 additional acres would become a containment cell under this option. The option is preferred because it fully contains the PCBs at a low cost, \$4.2 million, compared to Option 4 – On-site Treatment, Institutional Controls, and Monitoring, \$21.1 million, or Option 5 – Excavation and Disposal, \$44 million (for the Old Die Cast Area alone!). Also, is it not safe to excavate around the gas pipeline in the North Utility Corridor or the forcemain in the West Utility Corridor.

Susie noted that it is easy to access background information regarding the Record of Decision at the Waukegan Library because of the excellent work of John Bairstow cataloging the AOC recorders repository.

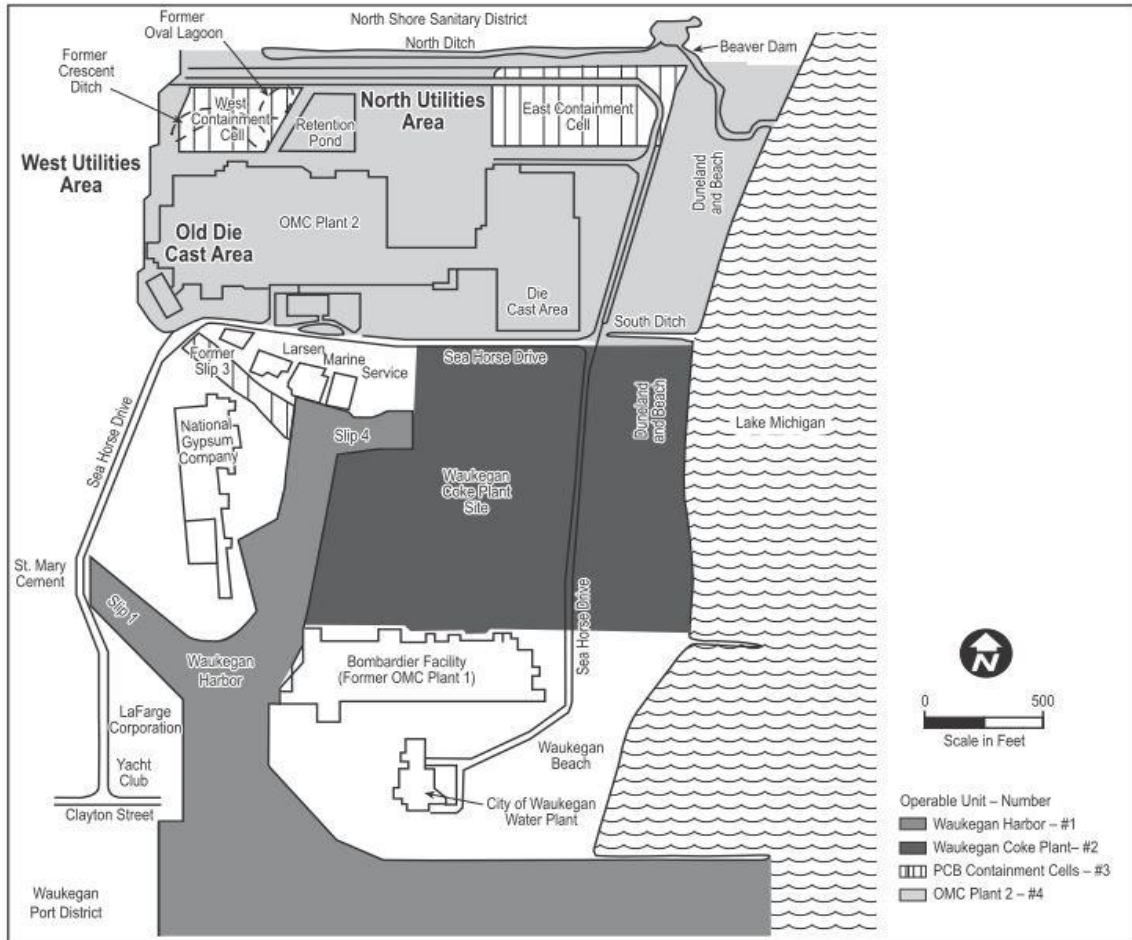
Waukegan Harbor Dredging and OMC Site updates – Tim Drexler

The consolidation facility is 85% complete. It should be finished in August. The water treatment facility is 75% complete. It should be finished in September. Dredging is still scheduled to begin on September 24th. There will be a tour of the consolidation and water treatment facility on August 16th at 4:00. Tim asked that individuals who are

interested in attending the tour meet in the parking lot adjacent to the facility (the former Triax Building) at that time.

Discovery of nesting swallows has delayed the demolition of the public docks just north of Government Pier. This is not expected to impact the overall project timeline.

At the OMC Plant 2 site a small area of soil was excavated in the west shelf area just east of the Triax Building due to the discovery of PCB contamination in the soil.



Naval Station great Lakes – Harbor Remediation; Pettibone Creek contaminants source problems; preventive littoral sands management needs – USN Reserve – Terese van Donsel

Pettibone Creek

In the past it was felt that it was inadvisable to clean the creek bed and dredge the boat basin at the naval station because pollution from upstream would re-contaminate the creek and basin.

A new study of the creek was undertaken and a draft report was released this year. It was found that contaminated sediments have significantly decreased in the creek due to erosion. The boat basin has become a de facto sediment basin and now contains 12 feet of silt including the contaminated sediments that were transported down into the basin.

The Navy has a program that is similar to Superfund, however, it has not been decided how or when the contamination issues associated with the creek and the boat basin will be addressed. The boat basin cannot be dredged without addressing the contaminated sediments and any potential for recontamination from the remaining sources upstream.

Harbor Dredging

The Navy renewed its 10-Year Comprehensive Maintenance Dredge Permit in 2009. Maintenance dredging was completed between 2009 and 2011.

The sand that is silting up the harbor at the Naval Station comes from 2 sources, Pettibone Creek, which is found both in the inner and outer harbors, and sand carried in by the littoral drift, found primarily in the outer harbor. A small island has formed in the outer harbor and common terns have colonized it.

The inner harbor sediments are silty and don't dewater easily. They contain low levels of metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). They have been disposed of in a local Subtitle D landfill. The outer harbor sediments contain low-level metals and PAHs but theoretically are available for off-site reuse.

Illinois regulations prevent the actual reuse of the sediments from the outer harbor. In order to be reused in Illinois, sediments have to be as clean as what was left by "God and Glaciers." In Wisconsin, though, regulations are less strict, and there has been public opposition to accepting dredge material from the harbor. The costs associated with shipping material to Indiana, which also has less restrictive reuse regulations, make that location less desirable. This has made the costs associated with dredging the outer harbor much higher.

In summary, the continued maintenance of the harbor is challenged by sediment buildup at the outer harbor entrance and in the north section of the outer harbor, movement of silt from Pettibone creek and the boat basin into the inner harbor, high costs associated with dredging in Lake Michigan, no practical opportunities for reuse of dredge material and no current funding for maintenance dredging.

There has been some preliminary work on finding long term solutions to the challenges. Entry of littoral sand into the harbor could be minimized by reconfiguring the harbor entrance, use of a mechanical sediment bypass system, and proactive dredging of sediments from areas outside the harbor. Entry of Pettibone Creek silt from entering the harbor could be realized by dredging the boat basin, capping the boat basin sediments or constructing a sedimentation basin that allows for routine removal of sediments before they enter the harbor.

Foss Park District – Kevin Holley

Kevin Holley, Ex. Director of Foss Park District (North Chicago) and Donna King, a Foss Park District Commissioner provided a summary of recent Foss Park District initiatives on their portion of the Lake Michigan lakefront.

Foss Park District has 1600 feet of beachfront but does not have a swimming beach. Due to littoral drift, the sand has been eroded from the beachfront leaving very little actual beach. The beach is not monitored and unfortunately, there have been drownings at the park.

The Park District is working on creating 2 swimming beaches. They have received some funding from the Federal Government. The Park District will also be working with the new Illinois Coastal Management Program.

The Park district is in the preliminary stage of establishing youth programs that focus on environmental issues. The CAG supports Foss Park District's initiatives.

Chicago Wilderness' Leave No Child Behind program is actively reaching out to the African-American community in North Chicago and Waukegan through its Public Engagement Strategy Project. Susie suggested that the project should expand up through Zion, Illinois.

Lake Michigan Bike Path – Bob Chmielewski

Bob attended at meeting concerning the establishment of a lakefront bike path in Lake County. This idea has been discussed for a number of years. There are still many challenges to establishing a continuance of the Green Bay Bike Trail north of its terminus by the Great Lakes Metra Station. The proposed path is hampered by the existence of the FBI shooting range on the lakefront, and the resistance of Abbott Laboratories to having the bike path cross its lakefront property.

Old Business

None

New Business

Annual CAG Picnic and OMC Plant 2 Dewatering Site Tour - August 16, 2012 announcements made; please RSVP so we can accommodate everyone.

Platinum Bucket Dredge Celebration Day – September 6, 2012!!!!!! Actual dredging of Waukegan Harbor is about to begin!!!!

Great Lakes Week: September 10 – 13, 2012 in Cleveland, Ohio. Please let Chair know if you are interested in attending.

Announcements – Addition to the agenda

Todd Binning announced that Friends of Waukegan Beach will be hosting a training session for participating in and documenting collected debris for the Alliance for the Great Lakes annual Beach Sweep to be held in mid-September. The training will be held on August 29th at the First Baptist Church of Waukegan. Representatives from the Alliance for the Great Lakes will be conducting the training.

Adjournment

Larry Brewer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John Ohl. The meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Web Sites

<http://www.waukeganharborcag.org>

The Waukegan CAG website.

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/environmental-justice>
<http://www.ilenviro.org>

Illinois EPA – Environmental Justice website.
Good listing of all environmental bills in the ILL House & Senate.

<http://www.glc.org>
<http://www.binational.net>

Great Lakes Commission.
Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy – 2002 Annual Progress Report
The Lake Michigan Forum
Lake Michigan Lake Wide Management Plan (LaMP 2000)

<http://www.lkmichiganforum.org/>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakemich>

Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordinating Council
Lake Michigan Sensitive Areas

<http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc/index.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/lakemich>
<http://www.cciw.solec>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec>
<http://www.gvsu.edu/wri>

State of the Great Lakes – SOLEC 2002 full report.
Annis Water Resources Institute

<http://www.epa.gov/OST/GLI/glimixqa.html>

A document on Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern (BCCs).

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/pubs/brochures/wlevels/wlevels.html>

Great Lakes Water Levels

<http://www.sph.umich.edu/ehs/umaql/mass.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lmmb>
<http://biology.usgs.gov/S+t/noframe/x186.html>

Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study

Lake Michigan Mass Balance

Zebra Mussels in Southwestern Lake Michigan

CAG Members

*Abbott Laboratories
Akzo Nobel
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Bombardier Recreational Products
Carol Dorge, Attorney
City of North Chicago
City of Waukegan
College of Lake County
Commonwealth Edison
EJ & E Railway
Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council
Illinois Audubon Society
Johns Manville
LaFarge Corporation
Lake County Audubon
Lake County Chamber of Commerce
Lake County Planning, Building and Development Dept.
Lake County Health Department
Lake County Stormwater Management Agency
Larsen Marine, Inc.
LFR Levine • Fricke
Liberty Prairie Conservancy
Midwest Generation
National Gypsum
North Shore Gas
North Shore Sanitary District
Outboard Marine Corporation
Salmon Unlimited*

CAG Members (continued)

*Waukegan Charter Boat Association
Waukegan Main Street
Waukegan Lakefront Development Corporation
Waukegan Park District
Waukegan Port District
Waukegan Yacht Club
Concerned Citizens*

CAG Associates

*Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Delta Institute
Illinois Citizen Action
Illinois Depart. of Natural Resources
Illinois Environ. Protection Agency
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
Illinois Lake Management Association
Illinois Pollution Control Board
International Joint Commission
Maritime Administration
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environ. Protection Agency
U. S. Fish and Wildlife
University of Illinois- Marine Extension
Waukegan Public Library
Concerned Citizens*