



## Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group

P.O. Box 297  
Waukegan, Illinois 60079

<http://waukeganharborcag.com>

**Minutes of the July 18, 2013, CAG meeting held at Lilac Cottage, Waukegan Park District, Waukegan respectfully submitted by Natalie Dutack, acting as Recording Secretary of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group.**

The July 18, 2013, meeting of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group was called to order at 6:08 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 18, 2013 CAG Meeting:**

<b>Penny Bouchard</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Larry Brewer</b>	LaFarge Corporation
<b>Bill Constantelos</b>	Midwest Generation
Roy Czajkowski	Concerned Citizen
<b>Natalie Dutack</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Paul Gieselhart</b>	Lake County Audubon
<b>Trey Jackson</b>	National Gypsum
<b>Paul Kakuris</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Bill Lebensorger</b>	Concerned Citizen
<b>Heriberto Leon</b>	USEPA
<b>Cherylyn McHugh</b>	Akzo Nobel Aerospace
<b>Christine Nannicelli</b>	Sierra Club
<b>John Ohl</b>	Salmon Unlimited
<b>Susan Olavarria</b>	Midwest Generation
<b>Verana Owen</b>	Sierra Club
<b>Doug Ower</b>	Sierra Club
<b>Sharon Sandoval</b>	North Shore Sanitary District
<b>Susie Schreiber</b>	Illinois Audubon
<b>Don Wilson</b>	Concerned Citizen

### **GUESTS:**

<b>Tom Kimmel</b>	Concerned Citizen
-------------------	-------------------

## **AGENDA**

No additions to the Agenda.

## **MINUTES**

The May meeting minutes were presented, noting that the sign-in sheets were missing. A motion for approval was made by Larry Brewer, and seconded by Paul Gieselhart. The motion carried.

## **UPDATES**

### **USEPA**

#### ***North Shore Gas former manufactured gas plant sites***

*From: Rosaura Del Rosario, USEPA Remedial Project Manager; Jaime Brown, USEPA On-Scene Coordinator*

Work continues on the time-critical removal action at the **North Plant MGP Site**. The Site is located on vacant land at 849 Pershing Road, Waukegan.

Results from historical samples in the removal areas indicate the presence of elevated concentrations of:

- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and,
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the Dense Nonaqueous Phase Liquid (DNAPL) present in both the surface and subsurface.
- The data also indicates the presence of benzene concentrations exceeding 0.5 mg/kg.

Depth to groundwater in the area varies from 2 to 5 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flows east towards Lake Michigan and organics contained in the DNAPL may leach into the groundwater and migrate to Lake Michigan. The total volume of impacted material is estimated to be 260,100 cubic yards.

USEPA is working with North Shore Gas' designated contractor and project coordinator. North Shore Gas has:

- Implemented site security measures
- Constructed a tracking pad and temporary access roads
- Implemented the applicable portions of the air monitoring
- Initiated excavation and demolition of subsurface foundations/structures
- Disposed of 10,190 tons of soil and debris at Countryside Landfill

North Shore Gas will continue excavation of subsurface structures in preparation of in situ stabilization (ISS) activities.

USEPA is awaiting a revised draft Remedial Investigation report on the **South Plant MGP Site** from the PRP or Responsible Party (IntegrYS).

### **Question:**

*Who is paying for this work?* North Shore Gas

### **Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC):**

Update on the Outboard Marine Corporation Site from Tim Drexler, USEPA Remedial Project Manager

Environmental dredging was completed on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Navigational dredging of the harbor, utilizing Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) funding on USEPA's Superfund contract, was initiated on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The objective of the work is to dredge to a depth of 18 feet in the navigational channel of the Entrance Channel and inner harbor areas.

Post-dredging conformational cores will be taken by the GLNPO Research Vessel *Mudpuppy* on Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. Final harbor-wide PCB concentrations are anticipated by mid-next week.

Site restoration and preparation for contaminated soil excavation at OU4, the former Outboard Marine Plant 2 Site, continues. Excavation is expected to begin on July 29<sup>th</sup> and last through August. Low-level contaminated soil from the excavation will be placed in the Consolidation Facility to save transportation costs.

Updates on the Water Quality Results and Estimated Dredge volumes are posted regularly at: [www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/outboardmarine/](http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/outboardmarine/).

#### Questions:

*In relation to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) outer harbor dredging project, where are they delivering sand? On the OMC site.*

*What kind of dredge will that be? And, when will it occur?*

It appears they would like to rent the equipment that is already there (hydraulic). The dredging will occur next year; dewatering from the current dredging needs to be completed at OMC first.

### **CAG BUSINESS**

#### **New Google Maps**

Little Fort Media has agreed to make much needed *updated* maps for the Waukegan Harbor CAG. We should have a current map by the September meeting.

#### **Lake Michigan Littoral Sand Accumulation**

Both the Federal Approach Channel and swimming beach are filling up with sand. Bathymetric studies initiated by the Waukegan Harbor CAG are being conducted which will help us create better sand management plans. We are also asking for an updated map from the USEPA to include the Federal Approach Channel.

#### Question:

*What is depth of Approach Channel now? Prior to dredging, 9-10 feet and some areas as low as 7 feet. The final depth will be 18 feet.*

### **Green Harbors**

Recent surveys have found that there are fewer zebra mussels in Lake Michigan. However, they are now finding more Quagga mussels. The Round Goby, an invasive fish, is eating the Quagga mussel and native fish are now eating the Goby.

The Illinois/Indiana Sea Grant Aquatic Invasive project is giving out information on how to stop spread of these and other aquatic invasives at various harbors in the area.

### **Bowen Park Restoration**

Conservation Land Stewardship (CLS) is on schedule with the invasive species removal; 6.5 acres of work remains. More good news - the Bowen Triangle is now part of Bowen Park. We are working with CLS and the Waukegan Park District on creating a restoration plan. Margo Milde is currently conducting a floristic inventory of the area.

### **Waukegan Dunal Areas**

Restoration work has been started in areas owned by the City of Waukegan, Midwest Generation, and Johns Mansville. Davey Resources Group, our contractor, has been managing Crown Vetch, Lyme grass, Cottonwood saplings, and invasive woodies. In addition, the floristic monitoring team has found several new species. Phragmites removal will begin this fall.

### **Re-Vegetation RFP for Waukegan Dunal Area and Bowen Park**

Davey Resource Group has been selected as the Re-Vegetation Contractor.

Many good quality native species have shown up in Bowen Park after the past 2 years of clearing the invasive species out. This may change the scope of work for the contract and will be worked out with Davey.

### **Harbor Dredging Tours**

The Harbor Dredging Tours were extremely well attended. The USEPA hosted two tours a month, and three in June. We still want to get the Waukegan Health Department and the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission on a tour. We are looking to get people in decision making positions out to see the harbor before work is completed.

### **W.G. Jackson**

The W.G. Jackson research ship visit to Waukegan Harbor was very well attended by the North Chicago/Waukegan Leave No Child Inside groups. There were groups of 20-30 participants on the boat at a time, totaling 11 trips out onto the lake over four busy days. Everyone was very engaged. The Cool Learning Experience group from the First Baptist Church brought their additional harbor water samples to the W. G. Jackson's staff for further comparison and evaluation. All of the groups wanted to know how to get more involved with activities at the harbor.

### **IDNR Coastal Use Survey**

The IDNR Coastal Use Survey has been asking for feedback on ways to use the Lake Michigan shoreline. The links have been posted on our website.

The following suggestions were made by the Waukegan Harbor AOC:

- Bike accessibility / safe bike access to the beach, as well as safe pedestrian access and sidewalks.
- Signage: proper signage in the proper areas, including birding signage, and signs that state what you **can do** and **where** you can do it.
- Environmental awareness programs and classes in school given by IDNR.
- Raised Boardwalk to protect Dunal areas.
- More fishing space and weekend access were also suggested.

### **Great Lakes Week**

September 9-12, 2013 in Milwaukee Wisconsin – check for program agenda online.

### **State of Lake Michigan Meeting**

October 15 -17, 2013 in Sheboygan, Wisconsin - The information is not yet posted online.

### **Salmon Unlimited**

Kids Fishing Derby – September 14, 2013. We have a lot of prizes. People will be assisting the kids with netting and recording fish. Children up to the age of 16 can fish. There will be a cookout at the end.

### **Waukegan Harbor CAG Annual Picnic**

The annual picnic will take place at the Waukegan Port District on August 15<sup>th</sup>. This is our 24<sup>th</sup> year! Tim Drexler, USEPA Outboard Marine Corp. Superfund Project Manager, will have all the dredging numbers in so we will have a big celebration. The picnic will be a good place to network. We are currently looking for some sponsors.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **WTTW and Chicago Tribune Coverage of Harbor Issues**

This June we had a call from WTTW, wanting to discuss sand management issues in Waukegan Harbor. Larsen Marine provided a boat so they could film from harbor and the Approach Channel. The WTTW piece was featured on Chicago Tonight in late June. The Chicago Tribune also showed up during the same week and asked contractors and floristic monitor questions relating to the same issue. They were referred to the Waukegan Harbor CAG.

### **Grant Application**

We expect to hear about the potential Glen Flora and B2 Wetlands Grant in August. The grant was applied for in coordination with Alliance for the Great Lakes, who would be acting as Grant Administrator.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is holding a hearing at Bowen Park-regarding the NPDES discharge from Midwest Generation on Wednesday, Jul 31, 2013 at 6:30 at the Jane Addams center. Anyone may attend.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Don Wilson, and seconded by Paul Gieselhart. The meeting ended at 7:57 p.m.

## WEB SITES

<http://www.waukeganharborcag.org>

The Waukegan CAG website.

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

Illinois EPA – Environmental Justice website.

<http://www.ilenviro.org>

Good listing of all environmental bills in the IL House & Senate.

<http://www.glc.org>

Great Lakes Commission.

<http://www.binational.net>

Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy – Annual Progress Report

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

Great Lakes Water Levels

<http://www.cciw.solec>

State of the Great Lakes – SOLEC full report

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec>

<http://www.lkmichiganforum.org/>

The Lake Michigan Forum

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

Lake Michigan Lake Wide Management Plan (LaMP 2000)

<http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc/index.html>

Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordinating Council

<http://www.epa.gov/lakemich>

Lake Michigan Sensitive Areas

<http://www.sph.umich.edu/ehs/umaql/mass.html>

Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study

<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lmmb>

Lake Michigan Mass Balance

<http://biology.usgs.gov/S+t/noframe/x186.html>

Zebra Mussels in Southwestern Lake Michigan

<http://www.gvsu.edu/wri>

Annis Water Resources Institute

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

A document on Bioaccumulative Chemicals of Concern (BCCs)

## USEPA WEB SITE

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Then select *Outboard Marine Corp Superfund Site* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Addition information may be reached by the top right hand box labeled *Site Information*.

Select *NPL Fact Sheet*. At the bottom you can click on *Site Profile Info* and it will take you to Superfund.

The Superfund Site Progress Profile contains the following additional information on the Superfund sites:

The site, contamination, cleanup progress summary, cleanup impact summary, land re-use, post-construction, five year review and community involvement.

For Area of Concern Information:

Go the EPA Home site at *epa.gov*

Select *Illinois* from the map. It will go to an Illinois page.

Select *Great Lakes Area of Concern* in the *EPA in Illinois* section.

Choose *Waukegan Harbor* for AOC information.

## **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*