



Waukegan Harbor Citizens' Advisory Group

P.O. Box 297

Waukegan, Illinois 60079

<http://waukeganharborcag.com>

Minutes of the January 16, 2014, 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 January 16, 2014, meeting of the Waukegan Harbor Citizens Advisory Group was called to order at 6:06 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 January 16, 2014 CAG Meeting:

John Bairstow	Concerned Citizen
Larry Brewer	LaFarge Corporation
Penny Bouchard	Concerned Citizen
Tom Chefalo	Lake County Planning, Building & Development
Natalie Dutack	Concerned Citizen
Claudia Freeman	Waukegan Park District
Paul Geiselhart	Lake County Audubon
Paul Kakuris	Concerned Citizen
Bill Lebensorger	Concerned Citizen
John Legge	IDNR
Heriberto Leon	USEPA
Scott Myers	Johns Manville
Jeff Nettesheim	Bombardier Recreational Products
Brion O'Dell	Waukegan Port District
John Ohl	Salmon Unlimited
Matt Ohl	USEPA
Kathy Paap	Lake County Health Department
Steve Robillard	IDNR
Ania Ruszaj	IDNR
Susie Schreiber	Illinois Audubon
Randy Syme	Waukegan Yacht Club Youth Foundation
Diane Tecic	IDNR
Tom Thomas	TJ Thomas/Waukegan Port District
Brent Tracy	Johns Manville
Fred Veenbaas	Midwest Generation
Don Wilson	Concerned Citizen

GUESTS:

Todd Degner	Davey Resource Group
Tat Ebihara	AECOM
Jeff Edstrom	ECT
David Peterson	David M Peterson
Jeff Roberts	Concerned Citizen

AGENDA

The following additions to the agenda were made:
The IDNR would like to discuss the dredging BUI removal.
Tom Chefalo would also like to discuss brown field funding.

MINUTES

Claudia Freeman made a motion to accept the November 2013 minutes. It was seconded by John Ohl and passed.

UPDATES**USEPA****Update on the two North Shore Gas Manufactured Gas Plant sites****North Plant**

1. About 150,000 tons of contaminated soil/debris were removed and/or treated at the site by the end of 2013. Soil treatment will continue at the site through 2014.
2. Groundwater sampling was performed in December 2013. Groundwater is sampled periodically as part of characterizing the site, and the results are used to document the findings in the remedial investigation (RI) report. The results of this particular sampling event will likely be available in March 2014, depending on how quickly the PRP completes the data validation.

South Plant

1. The RI report is getting close to being finalized. The USEPA asked the PRP to address some minor comments in December 2013, and they responded on January 10th. The USEPA expects to make a decision before the end of the month.
2. A draft feasibility study (FS), which discusses cleanup objectives and various technologies that may be used in cleaning up the site, is expected to be submitted by February 2014. The USEPA will review and comment on the document. Once the RI and FS are approved by the USEPA, the Agency will begin preparing the proposed site cleanup plan.

OMC Superfund Site

Update on the Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Site from Tim Drexler as reported by Heriberto Leon.

Operable Unit 1 - Waukegan Harbor

Harbor caps near the seawall were completed in December, 2013. The rebuild of the North Marina, including bath/shower facility, was also completed in December, 2013.

Operable Unit 4 - Plant 2 Area

Twenty-two (22) groundwater monitoring wells were installed and over eighty (80) groundwater grab samples were collected November-December 2013. This was done in anticipation of the injection treatment of the groundwater solvent plumes.

2014 construction schedule:

Planned Start Date	Activity
April 2014	Old Die Cast area containment cell
May 2014	Sediment Consolidation Facility Cap and replacement water treatment plant
March 2014	Dredging Water Treatment Plant and other dredging equipment removal
March 2014	Final concrete and contaminated soil removal
June 2014	Injection treatment of groundwater solvent contamination

The planned completion of all tasks is August 2014.

IDNR

Diane Tecic

The IDNR wants to begin the process of requesting removal of the dredging BUI. They want to remove dredging restrictions due to contamination, as the harbor cleanup work is now completed. Diane has provided a draft document which they are giving to the Waukegan Harbor CAG for review. It will be placed on the CAG website.

Diane thanked the CAG attendees for providing feedback on the Illinois Lake Michigan Implementation Plan. They are hoping to finalize the document in the next month or so, and will publish it to the website. A section on program directed priorities is being added.

Duane Ambroz has been promoted and is transferring from the Illinois Coastal Management Program to the Division of Natural Heritage. Diane introduced John Legge and Ania Ruszaj who will be working with us now.

The Extended AOC Management Plan is up on the CAG website. It still requires some editing, particularly about the site history. John Bairstow will be assisting and John Legge will be completing that document.

In other news, the Coastal Management office may be moving to Evanston. The new building and site

would be more centrally located and could be outfitted with a coastal education and coastal sciences center. Susie Schreiber noted that there are locations in Waukegan that would also be interested in such an arrangement.

Pre-Announcement – a press release will come out through the fisheries commission around the middle of March. There will be a lake-wide yellow perch meeting. In 1994 the population collapsed and it did not recover. The meeting will be held in Chicago – details are pending. Please join us.

City of Waukegan

There was no report.

CAG BUSINESS

Johns Manville Superfund Site

The Johns Manville site was constructed for industry purposes in the 1920s and was used through 1988. Approximately 3,000 workers were employed at the site, manufacturing shingles, siding, gaskets, brakes, and linoleum; using asbestos. This industry led to the cleanup issues we are dealing with today. Asbestos products were manufactured until the late 1970s/early 1980s, and the land closest to lake shore was used as a deposit for asbestos debris. The site contained an onsite landfill, settling basin, and pumping lagoon. The federal government is helping with asbestos remediation, and the state is helping with cleanup of operations.

From 1998-2002 site cleanup was initiated. The first thing to be done was remove asbestos from the buildings, which required monitoring for air quality, as well as the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). All asbestos material was properly manifested, wrapped, and sent to a licensed facility. After asbestos was removed, the buildings were demolished. There were pits and storage tanks under building with petroleum and solvent contamination. They recycled as much steel from buildings as they could, and the rest was landfilled locally.

Once the buildings were removed, attention to the federally funded asbestos mitigation on the site was initiated. Work on the settling basin needed to address asbestos debris at the bottom of the basin. The basin was covered with a huge membrane and then capped with clay. In 2008 the landfill was closed.

Next steps – there are three (3) primary areas they will be working on during the next 18 months – the pumping lagoon, industrial canal, and adjacent asbestos contaminated properties. The pumping lagoon and industrial canal will be filled. First a berm will be constructed to create a barrier between the Illinois Beach State Nature Preserve and the site to prevent water from flowing into IBSP. Sandbags will be placed at the bottom to add contour and geotextile will be pulled across, similar to the process used in the settling basin. Work will be done during the day. They will fill it in, and then water will return to normal levels at night. The industrial canal will be separated into five (5) acre parcels.

There are areas next to properties at the southwest where asbestos was found and which need to be capped. After the installation of geotextile at the pumping lagoon and industrial canal, they will go to these southwest sites and remove asbestos impacted soil. They anticipate excavating 50,000 yards. This will be placed into the pumping lagoon and canal where a clean cap will be placed on top of it. There will be a liner under the sand, and native vegetation will be used to cover over these areas.

The borrow pit on the northwest part of the property contains clean sand – to be verified with testing. Then it can be dredged and used for capping. There are also storm water sources that will need to be addressed as discharge goes out to Lake Michigan. A junction chamber will be constructed to continue to drain on and offsite water out. A cap will be placed over the manufacturing area which extends into the southwest sites, and a clean corridor will be created so future utility work can be done. All work should be done in 18 months to 2 years.

What input do we have for the future? The original landowners were Blanding's Turtles, and they are massing along the fence line trying to get back in. JM is trying to rehabilitate site with native species and manage invasives. Conservation and recreation have been noted as possible future uses of the site.

Questions and Comments

How tall is the berm going to be? Six (6) feet high from where it is right now.

A request was made for testing to show that we aren't forcing asbestos and other constituents further into the groundwater with the placement of the geotextile membrane.

Waste is **not** going to Countryside Landfill near Grayslake - there were some concerns about the use of this location.

USGS Waukegan Harbor Swallow Egg Testing

Monitoring of swallow nests and testing of eggs around Waukegan harbor was conducted in 2013 by the US Geological Survey. Swallows feed on aquatic insects which emerge from harbor sediments. Egg testing is an inexpensive way to see what the current contamination levels are onsite. Unfortunately, tests results show that Waukegan Harbor is at the top of the list for contamination. However, we will continue the testing to see if the dredging will help this status improve.

Waukegan Dunal Area – Birding Report

This was a big species year. Adam Sell has been birding on Waukegan dunes for most of his life. He wanted to beat the all-time record big species year for the dunes – which he did with 191 species. This information is going out all over and will bring birders to Waukegan. Last year there were **280 bird species for all of Cook County** and **191 in Waukegan alone!** Also, note that one snowy owl was spotted on the Waukegan Dunes this year.

Climate Change Implications

Just note that the shift has been documented and the climate in northern Illinois is now the same as Champaign Urbana used be. Temperatures are warming up, species are changing. This information will be posted to save time.

RAMSAR

Deb Maurer, Lake County Forest Preserve, is getting all the final documentation in place for the submission of the RAMSAR application which she presented at the November, 2013 Waukegan Harbor CAG meeting. We are providing her a lot of our site information for inclusion in the application. If there are any questions for Deb, please contact Natalie Dutack.

Proposed New Dock on South Side of Waukegan Yacht Club

Susie met with Randy Syme from the Waukegan Jr. Fleet, Barbara Waller from the Cool Summer Learning Experience, Brion O'Dell and Joe Seidelmann from the Waukegan Port District, and Roger Tietz from Gillen. Together are working on putting a nice dock in at the south end of the Waukegan Yacht Club which will meet safety standards, adjust to water levels and have ADA access. This is a tremendous opportunity to have boating and science activities available for students and their families, and for charter fishermen to pick up customers with disabilities. The students will continue their water monitoring along the harbor piers and the lakefront in addition to their work in harbor. -We are creating a destination for Waukegan that is healthy and fun. Thank-you on behalf of the Waukegan Jr. Fleet Youth Foundation for helping to get us to this point!

Sand Management Issues

The Recreational Harbor again has a huge deposit-of sand which is blocking their entrance channel. While winds are blowing in from the south west, waves are coming from the south east and the sand is being heavily churned in this area. We strongly support the Waukegan Port District's request that the USACE extend their dredging permit to address this issue, and help the Waukegan Port District keep their recreational channel open.

Possible uses for the dredged sand could be to enrich other beaches to the south, or for cover at the Superfund Sites. This is the healthiest and least expensive option according to Chicago Botanic Garden and the Lake County Forest Preserve District.

USACE Asian Carp Report

The USACE issued their Executive Summary on the Impact of Asian CARP on the Great Lakes which will be posted on CAG website. Their next webinar on the topic will be held on January 21st.

Chicago Wilderness

1. The State and Federal Priorities for Lake County Forest Preserves are now available. Please go to-the Chicago Wilderness website to see the priorities and principles.
2. Large Predators in the Chicago Wilderness Region - A large predator presentation at the the CW Ex. Council - indicating that these species (cougar, bear, wolves, etc.) are now migrating into Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois. The presentation provided management ideas for these large predators which will be useful for county conservation and park districts.

Chicago Wilderness Congress – April 3, 2014

Also note – the IDNR Conservation Congress is going up on the IDNR website – get your voice heard.

Nominations Committee

A Nominating Committee is being put together for the Waukegan Harbor CAG annual election of officers for the Executive Committee.

IDNR & Healing Our Waters Grant

Several grants are coming up. There are several opportunities we can use for these future grants.

Topics moved to February's meeting

Due to time constraints several topics were moved to February's meeting. These included:

- Fish Refuges in Marinas
- Waukegan Park District Environmental Day
- Tom Chefalo's addition to the agenda on brown fields.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and passed. The meeting ended at 8:10 p.m.

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 Department of Natural Resources
Illinois Environmental 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. Environmental Protection Agency
U. S. Fish and Wildlife
University of Illinois- Marine Extension
Waukegan Public Library
Concerned Citizens*

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 IL House & Senate.

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

Great Lakes Commission.
Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy – Annual Progress Report
Great Lakes Water Levels

<http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/pubs/brochures/wlevels/wlevels.html>
<http://www.cciw.solec>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/solec>

State of the Great Lakes – SOLEC full report

<http://www.lkmichiganforum.org/>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakemich>
<http://wi.water.usgs.gov/lmmcc/index.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/lakemich>
<http://www.sph.umich.edu/ehs/umaql/mass.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/lmmb>
<http://biology.usgs.gov/S+t/noframe/x186.html>

The Lake Michigan Forum
Lake Michigan Lake Wide Management Plan (LaMP 2000)
Lake Michigan Monitoring Coordinating Council
Lake Michigan Sensitive Areas
Lake Michigan Mass Balance Study
Lake Michigan Mass Balance
Zebra Mussels in Southwestern Lake Michigan

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

Annis Water Resources Institute
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.