

Alpena County Heritage Route Team Meeting Notes

Date: 12-12-07

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Alpena City Hall

Present: Greg Sundin (City of Alpena), Eric Cline (City of Alpena), Rich Sullenger (City of Alpena), Ken Gauthier (Sanborn Township), Doug Vam (Sanborn Township), Lynn Kolassa (DDA), Deb Pardike (CVB), and Denise Cline (NEMCOG).

The meeting began with a discussion of the most recent Management Council meeting:

At the Management Council, there was no quorum and no chairman present, but the group discussed county projects. In addition, Dan Mullen (representing the Alpena County team) provided a demonstration of the Heritage Route website that Denise Cline has been working on. The site presents the Heritage Route in map format highlighting tourist destinations (both public and privately-owned) along US 23 and areas east and west.

The Alpena County Team requested that Denise be at the next Management Council meeting in February to discuss this project with the rest of the counties. The group discussed the structure and the Management Council and NEMCOG's role in the Heritage Route program.

Denise Cline provided the Alpena County team with a brief demonstration of the website. A discussion occurred about the method and funding that would be required to maintain the site. Currently, NEMCOG can continue to maintain the site. It was agreed that a plan is needed in the event that MDOT funding is not available. Another possibility for funding includes the sale of advertising on the site. The team agreed that Denise should continue building the website.

With Alpena County and Sanborn Township both planning non-motorized trails and with the beginning of the regional non-motorized trail planning, the team felt that it would be beneficial for the Alpena County team to focus on non-motorized trails as well to link Sanborn Township and the City of Alpena. Greg Sundin suggested looking for a planning grant to begin the process. The group will begin looking at possible trail routes at the next meeting.

Updated sections of the Management Plan will be provided to Denise Cline so that the plan can be updated again. It was noted that the expansion of the Maritime Heritage Trail should be added.

Update: The City of Alpena's grant application for Starlite Beach has been recommended for funding. In addition, the City has received two grants for upgrades at the marina.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at 2:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.