

**Pathway to 2040 Comprehensive Regional Plan
Implementation Committee Meeting
NIRPC Auditorium
August 20, 2014**

Minutes

Attendees

Nancy Adams, Michael Griffin, Richard Morrisroe, Rich Herr, Cecile Petro, Deb Backhus, George Malis, David Wright, Sergio Mendoza, Don Parker, Lori Latham.

Staff

Gabrielle Biciunas, Mitch Barloga, Eman Ibrahim, Kathy Luther, Steve Strains, Jack Eskin, Sarah Geinosky, Scott Weber and Mary Thorne.

Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Michael Griffin called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 10, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted under general consent.

Michael Griffin turned the meeting over to Nancy Adams, Vice Chair.

2040 CRP Implementation Activities

Marquette Plan Update – Kathy Luther and Jack Eskin gave a mini-presentation on the update of the Marquette Plan based upon the committee’s suggestions of last month. The implementation of the plan is overseen by the DNR Coastal Program, NIRPC, and the RDA in partnership with the communities. Currently staff is working on creating the draft plan update. Nancy Adams gave a brief summary of the suggestions made by the Committee last month as outlined in the July minutes. Discussion followed. Suggestions provided at today’s meeting included:

- Access – how do we define “access”; do not use the term “zones”
Can one walk to the lake? See it? Take the bus or bike? Are there good parking lots, etc.? Where can one overnight?
- Define the capacity of access modes to the lake
- Note trails, shuttles, parking lots, and roads
- Can the Creating Livable Communities grant be used for shuttles from the National Lakeshore to Gary venues?
- What are the current efforts to expand shuttle services
- What could a Marquette Action Plan do to add value?
- Identify partners and planning resources related to shuttle buses
- Identify tiers or other ways of organizing “access”, do not use “buffer” or “zone”
- Provide maximum feasible access
- Identify ways to fund operational costs of shuttle buses
- Study, or look at past studies, of visitors to the National Lakeshore – where do they originate?
- Identify which land uses are missing on the lakefront

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- Perform a market study
- Look at similar communities
- Feasibility of hotels and bed and breakfasts
- Collective resource of places you can rent on lakeshore
- Identify ways to promote the National Lakeshore and the lakeside communities
- Promote educational facilities and other related spaces (Dunes Learning Center)
- Passport promotion- chambers of commerce
- Ecosystem evaluation – CMAP
- Flesh out regulatory barriers to lakefront accessibility
- Discuss proposal for Calumet Heritage area, Pullman historic area.
- Viewshed analysis of the lakefront
- Look at transportation options, such as monorail

The deadline for pre-proposals is September 12. For more information on the update, go to www.rdatransformation.com.

Adjournment:

Hearing no other business, Nancy Adams adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Handouts and materials provided:

- Agenda Packet – Agenda and Minutes

An audio file of this meeting is available upon request.

Requests for alternate formats, please contact Mary Thorne at NIRPC at (219) 763-6060 extension 131 or at mthorne@nirpc.org. Individuals with hearing impairments may contact us through the Indiana Relay 711 service by calling 711 or (800) 743-3333.