



**CATF Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 13, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m on Zoom**

**Members in Attendance:** Karen Alholm, Zosia Eppensteiner, Jenn Hill, Emily Leach, Brad Neumann, Tyler Penrod, Greg Seppanen, Jes Thompson, Tom Tourville

**Guests in Attendance:** Dwight Brady, Evan Bonsall

### **1. Marquette County 2040 Master Plan**

- Emily, Evan, and Marquette County are seeking feedback on the Marquette County 2040 Master Plan draft before August 4th, 2021. The master plan draft is best viewed online at [mqtcoplan.org](http://mqtcoplan.org)
- The interactive data dashboard is nearly finished and will be live for review soon. Sections on housing, employment, and demographics will be available for each of the four regions in Marquette County.
  - Data in the dashboard is provided by the American Community Survey as a 5 year average. The county plans to update this dashboard as new data is made available.
  - Greg questioned whether this data dashboard could be shared as a template with other counties. Evan acknowledged that this dashboard was expensive to create, specifically staff time and the Tableau Dashboard annual license. Emily suggested it could be shared with others once the Standard Operating Procedures for updating the dashboard is complete.

### **2. Superior Watershed Partnership Update**

- 100,000 Tree Initiative
  - SWP will be distributing 100,000 trees to community members and groups over the next few years to engage the community on increasing tree abundance and diversity in the places they love.
- Stannard Rock Lighthouse - International Climate Research Station
  - SWP received grant funding through GLOS to purchase and install a buoy to collect wave and temperature data in real time. This funding will also allow us to upgrade our solar and wind power generation systems for the climate instruments and compile and publicly share the data collected by our US and Canadian partners in real time.
- Great Lakes Climate Corps
  - The GLCC has rebranded to demonstrate that the focus of their work is on climate mitigation and resilience. The GLCC will continue to build upon its 20 year legacy with a continued and strengthened focus on climate change projects.
  - This season the GLCC will employ 32 seasonal staff on 8 crews; their largest season ever.
- Renewable Energy Programs
  - SWP will be installing 5 home solar units free of charge for Upper Peninsula low income families this summer.

- SWP has also launched a solar energy K-12 curriculum using portable solar demonstration units provided with funding from the United Way. The first demonstration with Sandy Knoll 3rd graders went well and SWP is working to expand the program.

### 3. Jenn Hill

- Jenn will share upcoming event information with Emily to distribute to CATF. These events will be on the themes of renewable energy, transportation, housing, and more as we work to transform Michigan's economy.
- 5 Lakes Energy
  - Jenn now works with 5 Lakes Energy. Focus is on electrification of buildings (20% of MI's carbon emissions are from burning fossil fuels for space heating/cooling, water heating and cooking) and building out the electric vehicle charging network in the UP. Jenn shared the map of proposed locations based on a transportation study by MSU that focused on tourism demand. Study can be found at: [https://www.michigan.gov/climateandenergy/0,4580,7-364-85453\\_85455-487840--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/climateandenergy/0,4580,7-364-85453_85455-487840--,00.html)
- UP Energy Task Force
  - The UP Energy Task Force concluded its work in March 2021 with a report recommending short and long term actions to improve the UP energy system. The highest priority is for UP utilities to work together in energy transition. Recordings and presentation slides, along with the report, can be found at [https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3306\\_88771\\_93973---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/egle/0,9429,7-135-3306_88771_93973---,00.html)

### 4. MSU Extension

- Michigan Association of Planning Government Relations Committee
  - Committee is drafting a set of climate change adaptation/ mitigation policies for member units of government. Expected to be finalized this summer.
- Brad is working with others at MSU and U of M to develop a sample solar zoning ordinance amendment for Michigan local governments. The document will be going out for a second external review before the end of May.
- MSU Extension Citizen Planner Advanced Academy in early June to include a session on planning for EVs, presented by Jenn Hill. Registration at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/advanceacadmcp>

### 5. Northern Michigan University

- Carbon Neutrality Commitment
  - NMU is in the planning and organization stages of creating measurable and achievable goals. This process will engage students, faculty, and staff to guide NMU's transition to carbon neutrality.
- Northern Climate Network
  - Planning to continue offering virtual Climate@Noon to bring voices from around the region and world as well as in-person seminars.

### 6. Community Foundation of Marquette County

- Grant and Scholarship Distribution
  - Much of the grant funding is Covid-19 related this year.
  - Clean Energy Fund is making it's first grants this summer.
- Special Projects
  - CFMC will be the fiscal agent in replacing all AEDs for the Marquette County Law Enforcement Administrators Association.

### 7. Good of the Order

- Adjournment 11:45 a.m.

**Next Meeting: August 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**