

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Official Proceedings

August 17, 2011

The Alpena Community College Board of Trustees met for its regular August meeting on August 17, 2011, in the Roger C. Bauer Board Room, Room 400 of the Charles R. Donnelly Natural Resources Center, on the College campus.

Chairman Briggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: John Briggs, Teresa Duncan, Marc Ferguson, Joseph Gentry II, Lisa Hilberg, Florence Stibitz, and Tom Townsend.

Approval of Agenda

Member Townsend moved that the agenda be approved.

Ayes: Briggs, Duncan, Ferguson, Gentry, Hilberg, Stibitz, and Townsend.

Nays: None

Motion carried. All ayes.

Approval of Official Proceedings

The proceedings for the June 16, 2011, budget workshop and regular June meeting were approved as presented. The June 21, 2011, special meeting proceedings were approved as well.

Introduction of Guests and Public Comment

Jay Walterreit, ACC; Jaime Adams, WATZ News; Tom Ludwig, ACC; Don MacMaster, ACC; Dick Sutherland, ACC; Nancy Seguin, ACC; Emily Siegman, Alpena News; Monica Bushey, ACC; and Audrey Julian, ACC.

Communication(s)

President Joynton acknowledged an invitation from Huron Shores Campus instructor R.C. Laugal to visit the Huron Shores Campus on August 30, 2011. President Joynton invited trustees interested in accompanying him for the visit to contact him ASAP.

Board Member and Subcommittee Reports

There were no reports from members of the Board.

Faculty Report

Faculty members of the counseling staff, Audrey Julian and Monica Bushey, updated the Board on their work at ACC.

Student Report

There was no student report.

President's Report

The President's report follows as it was presented.

1. Presentation of the 2011-12 ACC Catalog

The annual process of making revisions to the ACC Catalog and producing the bound copies has been completed. This project managed by Director of Marketing and Public Information Jay Walterreit, who collaborates with several other college staff members to keep the information current, most significantly with those in the Office of Academic and Student Affairs for curriculum changes. After an experiment of printing only 250 copies last year, which was intended to increase use of the electronic version on the college website, we returned this year to a run of 5,000, about half what we printed before the electronic version came online. The electronic version has the advantage of being continually updated, but there's still a strong demand that we discovered for the paper copy.

2. United by Water Shipwreck Seminars for Community College Faculty

During the last two weeks of July, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Alpena Community College delivered two iterations of a weeklong workshop entitled "*United by Water: Exploring American History through the Shipwrecks and Maritime Landscapes of the Great Lakes.*" *Two cohorts of 25 community college faculty members from around the country participated in academically rich and highly participatory events led by Thunder Bay NMS Special Projects Coordinator Cathy Green and Dr. John Jensen, on the maritime studies and policy faculty of the Sea Education Association in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.* In addition to lectures for the visitors, there were hands-on experiences with the shipwrecks by research vessel (including real-time sonar imaging and operation of a remotely operated vehicle), glass bottom boat tour, snorkeling and kayaking, and visits to the Besser Museum and Alpena County Library maritime history archive. Funded by a National Endowment for the Humanities Landmarks of American History and Culture grant, the seminars and field experiences were designed to inspire faculty to integrate their experience with our unique and powerful historical landmarks (or should we say watermarks) into their community college courses in a variety of disciplines.

As demonstrated by the attached letter, the overwhelmingly positive feedback to this initial offering of United by Water demonstrates the teaching possibilities enshrined in the shipwrecks of Thunder Bay. ACC and TBNMS plan to offer this workshop again in the future, as well as to expand into other professional development opportunities for post-secondary educators.

Special thanks to Jay Walterreit, Jeff Blumenthal, Lyn Kowalewsky, Lee Spragg, Dick Sutherland, Cindy Besaw, Carolyn Daoust, Sally Shubert, David Cummins, and Matt Dunckel for their participation in the ACC support provided for the program.

July 26, 2011

Julia Huston Nguyen, Ph.D.
NEH Senior Program Officer
Division of Education Programs
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Dr. Nguyen:

I recently participated in the July 17-23 NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop for Community College Faculty entitled *United by Water: Exploring American History through the Shipwrecks and Maritime Landscapes of the Great Lakes* held in Alpena, Michigan. I am writing this letter to communicate to you and NEH how much I enjoyed and learned during the weeklong *United by Water* workshop.

To begin, the workshop was well organized. It was obvious that the directors John Jensen and Cathy Green put much emphasis on making sure that the participants knew where to go and what topics were to be discussed and/or field activities planned during each day of the workshop. Also, it definitely proved helpful that the directors communicated regularly with the participants starting a few months before the workshop began. The workshop website was easy to navigate and very informative with respect to both practical and academic pursuits. It is no easy task coordinating and moving 25 strangers from one locale to another but this was done smoothly and without major glitches.

Second, the workshop was a splendid mix of lectures and experiential learning via field activities. Like a good tossed salad, all the ingredients were proportionally represented and complemented each other. Personally, I am a big fan of *in situ* hands-on activities. It is one thing to talk about shipwrecks but it is something wholly different to see one on site and better yet to explore one from a kayak or by snorkeling as was done in the workshop. The field activities, which included exploring the nearshore waters of Lake Huron for shipwrecks from a glass-bottomed boat and by kayak and/or snorkeling and learning to transect the weathered hull of a beached ship, dovetailed nicely with the fact-filled academic lectures. The number of university/college and NOAA experts and local businesses assembled to deliver the lectures and lead the field activities was impressive and again speaks of the directors organizing talents, skills, and desire to put together an excellent program.

Third, the workshop's physical location and facilities were ideal for participants to actively engage in and better understand maritime heritage and landscapes. The NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary building housed an expansive Great Lakes maritime museum replete with immersive heritage exhibits and a community boatbuilding workshop.

In closing, the workshop exceeded my expectations. It did what workshops like these are supposed to do, namely excite an instructor to want to learn more about a discipline that he/she may not know much about. This was the case for me and I suspect this was true for the other *United by Water* participants. The workshop directors, visiting lecturers, and staff as well as NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Alpena Community College should be