

CAWS STEERING COMMITTEE
CONFERENCE CALL
MEETING NOTES AND ACTION ITEMS
APRIL 16, 2019 AT 3:00 P.M.

Call Participants: John Dickert, Matt Doss, Sheyda Esnaashari, Lisa Frede, Kathy Luther, Rebecca Mason, Kay Nelson, Bob Wakeman

Discussion Items:

Finalizing the three letters directed by the CAWS at the December meeting.

The documents have currently not been reviewed by any of the participants. Kathy Luther suggested reviewing one letter at a time and requested input based on the time sensitivity of each letter. The group prioritized the letter to Governor J.B. Pritzker as the most important.

- Letter to new Illinois Governor, J.B. Pritzker, regarding funding for local sponsorship of the Brandon Road Project.
 - Of the three letters, all participants agreed this letter was the highest priority to address first.
 - A new deadline for review and comment was set for Friday, April 19th.
 - The participants' current impression of the Illinois legislative session is that waterway issues are not at the top of the agenda.
 - A suggestion for the letter to Governor Pritzker, was to possibly include or be part of an invitation to participate in the next CAWs meeting, tentatively scheduled in June.
- Letter to Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) regarding planning for 2-way Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) controls
 - Discussion deferred to next call and actual review of the letter. Participants were not sure if the letter may be a premature request of ACOE while Brandon Road Project is still seeking funding, but did not want to delay progress by keeping it on hold until resolution.
- Letter to Illinois EPA and ACOE regarding environmental assessment of the Brandon Road Lock project adjacent property.
 - Lisa Frede recused herself from discussion on this letter.
 - Further discussion of this letter was deferred to the next call and actual review.

Membership List Updates

Kathy reminded the group of the nine organizations identified in the Membership work plan to be contacted due to low or no participation. She asked for further information before contacting them. See notes for each below.

- General Iron Industries, Inc. – *Represented by other CAWS members*
- Great Lakes Sport Fishing Council
- Lake Erie Charter Boat Association
- Mid-West Truckers Association - *Represented by other CAWS members*
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- City of Grand Rapids
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

- Northeast Ohio Mayors & City Managers Assoc.
- Illinois River Carriers Association –*Attended 7 meetings and 8 was the cutoff. Lisa Frede to reach out to personally.*

Next Steps:

- NIRPC will send an email survey to the six remaining non-attenders and new invitees and follow up with a phone call. The survey will include information on alternative ways to participate in the meetings via phone, as an “observer” on the distribution list, etc.

New Members to invite:

- Shedd Aquarium – *Based on frequent attendance at meetings*
- Illinois-Indiana Sea-Grant – *Based on recommendations Kathy received from members*

Next Meeting:

LOGISTICS:

- Kathy is still waiting on dates from the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee (ACCRC) to schedule a meeting. They are looking at the 2nd and 3rd week in June. Two steering committee members had a scheduling conflict with the third week and Lisa will communicate this to the ACCRC. One issue with scheduling multiple days is room availability at EPA. Kathy will discuss room availability with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP).

TOPICS:

Suggestions included:

- Invite Great Lakes Panel on ANS to present on Grass Carp projects on the Maumee and/or CO2 pilot projects on the Fox River and Green Bay.
- Invite Governor’s Office for discussion/education on issue