



## Maumee AOC Advisory Committee

August 10, 2023 9:30am – 10:05am

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### MINUTES

Attendance: Cherie Blair, Mike Pniewski, Beth Sparks-Jackson, Kris Patterson, Kris Barnswell, Corey VanStratt, Liv Simkins Bullock, Zuri Carter, Amber Bellamy, Jim Carter, DJ Mears, LaShawna Weeks, Regina Collins, Andrew Sankowski, James Eisenhardt, Ashlee Decker, Lynn Garrity, Paul Hotz, Amanda Kovach, Scott Butterworth

- Mike Pniewski, Chair, noted that the meeting will be brief. There is a boat trip on the Sandpiper today for those attending that leaves at 11am.
- When a quorum was achieved, the minutes were approved. No objections or abstentions noted.
- Beth Sparks-Jackson, USGS gave an update from BUI 3a, 6, 14a Biological subcommittee. A small group has been working on identifying lower Ottawa River TBD projects with more specific site-based potential projects. They've held several meetings and field visits. The Mannik and Smith Group will be developing concept plans for several potential sites. The group plans to present recommendations in December.
- Leah Medley, GLNPO, US EPA Task Force Leader reminded everyone of the AOC Conference Sept 12-14, 2023 in Green Bay, WI. There is travel support for a few Maumee AOC representatives. The GLRI Action Plan IV is in early stakeholder input and will have more public input opportunities in the future. The recent GLNPO discussions on projects coming up the Maumee AOC went well. Decisions will be made soon.
- Cherie Blair, Ohio EPA, shared a written Ohio EPA AOC Coordinator Report and gave a brief summary. There are three WildMAPs left to complete and two will likely be completed by the end of the year. ODNR Forestry identified the additional property they needed. Delaware-Horseshoe Islands project was allocated a little over \$5 million and an award is anticipated soon. The lower Maumee River Feasibility Study public meeting is tonight, August 10 at the Glass City Pavilion at 4pm. Mike will be there along with agency representatives from Army Corps and EPA and the State. The draft Swan Creek focused feasibility study report is expected out for public comment in December and there will be a public meeting in early to mid-December. GLNPO accepted the recommendation to remove BUI 11. It will now go to the IJC. Ohio EPA's review of the sediment data for the dredging BUI indicates that it may be removable. More information will be shared in December.
- Kris Patterson shared a brief Facilitating Organization's Report. The AOC support grant is approximately 45% spent with more already allocated to several contracts. It is underspent but the contractual activities will pick up. Kris reiterated that the Maumee River boat trip today will showcase projects or future project (it is up to the captain if they go upstream or downstream today and it is a public cruise).
- Kris also gave a visual overview of the new & improved maumeeaac.org website and asked for any feedback. She highlighted the new home page and the project features. More will be added to the website for the Resources library and the MAP lists. She will let the committee know when the site fully launches.
- No Public Comments & meeting was adjourned early.
- **Next meetings for 2023** – hybrid format, Ohio EPA NWDO plus Teams  
*December 14 at 9:30am*