WUPPDR Annual Meeting at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge

Come and join us for the WUPPDR 39th Annual Meeting on Monday, September 17, 2007 at the brand new Keweenaw Mountain Lodge Conference Center. Since construction began in 2006, the last nail has been hammered and the last wall has been painted. The Lodge celebrated the Conference Center opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony in May of this year followed by their Grand Opening in July in conjunction with the Thimbleberry JamFest. The new 6,000 square foot addition supports a 250 person capacity, and according to Jennifer Maki, in her article titled "Back Then":

"Comfort, class and ambiance will provide guests with an atmosphere of intimacy and style."

Annual Meeting Program

Social Hour: 5:00 PM (EST)
Buffet Dinner: 6:00 PM (EST)
Welcome & Introduction of Guests
Introduction of WUPPDR Officers
WUPPDR Annual Report
Keynote Speaker: Curt Pianalto, from America’s Byways Resource Center
Oreste Chiantello Award Presentation

Keynote Speaker, Curt Pianalto, of America’s Byways Resource Center will speak about the America’s Byway Program and the potential the Copper Country Trail can bring to the region.

Dinner: $16.50/person
WUPPDR Commissioners receive a complimentary dinner.

You still have time to RSVP. If you are interested in attending please call the office at 906.482.7205 by September 10.

Did You Know?

WUPPDR was established in 1968 as State Planning Region 13. The purpose of the regional commission is to foster stable and diversified local economies within the region.

WUPPDR Staff:
- Kim Stoker, Acting Director
- Lori Hauswirth, Associate Planner
- Meg Pachmayer, Assistant Planner
- Jim Lamuth, Assistant Planner, Housing Agent
- Courtney Archambault, Planning Assistant
- Ken Marshall, GIS Specialist
- Steve Rouzer, GIS Technician
- Mary Taddeucci, Administrative Assistant
- Sue Hartley, Financial Secretary

US Geological Survey: The National Map

The National Map is a consistent framework for geographic knowledge needed by the Nation. It provides public access to high-quality, geospatial data and information from multiple partners to help support decision making by resource managers and the public. The National Map is the product of a consortium of Federal, State, and local partners who provide geospatial data to enhance America’s ability to access, integrate, and apply geospatial data at global, national, and local scales.

In April WUPPDR received funding to work with local partners to host data sets within the region to be posted to The National Map. GIS staff will be working with a number of local, state and federal agencies, collecting public domain data. This will allow communities, businesses, and tourists to view the data via the Internet for general planning purposes.

For any questions or for more information on The National Map please contact Ken Marshall, GIS Specialist at kenmarshall@wuppdr.org, or look on the web at: http://nationalmap.gov/

Sincerely,
Ed Jenich
Economic Development in the Region

WUPPDR works both with the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to aid in the economic growth and development of the region.

Current projects include:
- Calumet Township’s $300,000 MEDC grant to assist the FTF L.L.C. manufacturing company with public infrastructure. The Township will match grant monies with $100,000 and FTF will invest up to $2 million in the project to create an estimated 60 jobs.
- A $1 million MEDC grant to renovate the two existing floors and add a third floor to the Powerhouse Incubator space in the City of Houghton.

Under the EDA, WUPPDR also serves as a designated economic development district and maintains a “Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy” (CEDS) for Planning Region 13.

For more information on the CEDS or any project please contact us at the office or visit our website at www.wuppdr.org

Pedal, Run and Jump onto a Heritage Trail

The Iron County Heritage Trail is a collection of 14 unique heritage sites linked together by a convenient driving tour. Heritage Trail access may soon be expanded to include bicycle-pedestrian traffic thanks to a feasibility study funded by a FHWA Scenic Byways grant.

WUPPDR is currently working with an ad-hoc committee in Iron County to evaluate potential bicycle-pedestrian linkages between the heritage sites as well as scenic corridors.

Emergency Management in the Region

WUPPDR staff has been busy working with projects in the Emergency Management Field.

The Flood Mitigation Plan for the City of Wakefield is nearing completion with the final plan on its way to FEMA for approval in November. Work continues on the Michigan Tech Disaster Response University project funded under FEMA’s Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program. Drafting of the Michigan Tech Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan is underway.

In June, WUPPDR began inventorying critical assets in the 6 county area and resource typing them to meet state and federal compliance.

Resource typing is the categorization and description of response resources that are commonly exchanged in disasters through mutual aid agreements. Resource typing enhances emergency readiness and response at all levels of government through facilitating the identity, location, request, ordering, and tracking process of outside resources.

WUPPDR serves as a housing agent for Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Keweenaw and Ontonagon Counties facilitating over $750,000 annually in rental assistance to nearly 200 households.

WUPPDR Commission Meeting Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 17 2007 Annual Meeting (Keweenaw Mountain Lodge)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 15 2007 Executive Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 19 2007 Executive Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 17 2007 Full Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 21 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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<td>February 18 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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<td>March 17 2008 Full Commission</td>
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<td>April 21 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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<td>May 19 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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<td>June 16 2008 Full Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 21 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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<td>August 18 2008 Executive Committee</td>
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All meetings will be held at Tulppo’s Restaurant in Bruce Crossing, MI except the September meeting. The Executive Committee Meeting begins at approximately 6:45 PM (EST); Full Commission meeting begins at approximately 7:15 PM (EST).