

City of Marine on St. Croix – Minnesota Historical Society
Joint Meeting
January 4, 2013
Marine on St. Croix City Hall
1:30 PM

Meeting Attendees:

City of Marine: Chuck Arneson, Curt Moe, Anne Reich, Jack Warren, Mary Vogel, Andy Kramer, Tod Drescher, Dan Willenbring

Minnesota Historical Society: Tom Ellig, Diane Adams-Graf; John Crippen; Richard Josey

Purpose:

In one form or another, the items below tie into Preservation, Education and Interpretation of one of Minnesota's historical treasures, the Marine Mill Site. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss Marine's community partnership with MHS as it relates to the Mill Site and the surrounding Village Center.

Agenda

- Discuss Marine citizen's volunteer work over the past several years
- Site Walk- Focus on
 - Work done to-date
 - Existing Trails and Interpretive signage
 - Significant artifacts, foundations, ect
 - Potential Mill stream crossings
 - General Store Trail
 - Storm water ditch
- Mill Site future plans
 - Tree and vegetation work
 - Discuss future archaeological surveys on the site
- Mill Site grants/contracts
- Pedestrian Trail down to the river from behind the General
 - Potential to use the existing ditch as a storm water outflow, some of this falls on city right of way on the upper end and MHS property the closer you get to the river
 - Link the General Store trail to the south side of the site with natural looking stepping stones, similar to Lake Itasca/Mississippi Headwaters
- Legacy Funding-Partnership Grants to help fund Village Center improvements
 - Review Village Center Concept Plan
- Update on the MN/DOT storm water runoff analysis along HWY 95
- Discuss Next steps

Marine on St. Croix City Council's Trail Committee's
Recent Accomplishments
at the Historic Marine Mill Site
January 4, 2013

- Background
 - In late 2009, the Marine on St. Croix City Council's Trail Committee decided to make improvements at the Mill Site.
 - Tom Ellig was contacted, existing development plans were reviewed and a plan for the Mill Site was developed with Tom.
 - Created a Mill Site Steering Committee for planning at Mill Site
 - Activity at Mill Site began with vegetation removal in September 2010.
- Accomplishments
 - Removed over 30 dump truck loads of unwanted vegetation
 - Have planted over 100 trees, caging them for protection from deer
 - All trees donated by local citizens, with 37 from our Fund-A-Tree program, with a community planting day, where Chuck Arnason provided a history of the Mill Site.
 - Due to dedicated volunteer waterers, we have lost only 2(?) trees, despite 2012 drought
 - Over ___ hours of volunteer labor since September 2010
 - Trails were resurfaced
 - Fence and deck repaired
 - Fence extended to limit access to Mill Stream
 - City Council arranged w MnDOT for Mill Site signs on road and in Marine
 - Contracted with Prairie Restorations to develop a short grass prairie by upper ruins
 - Contracted with local arborist to remove large trees.
 - Equipment and herbicides were purchased with funds from Washington Conservations District grant and MHS contact.
- Funding sources
 - WCD Grant,
 - \$2500 for removal of invasives
 - MHS Contracts
 - \$4500 in each FY 2012 & 2013
- Community participation
 - Over 70 local citizens have volunteered
 - Local restaurants have discounted meals for volunteers
 - Lions, Boy Scouts & local church have been approached.
 - Arranged for 12 days of Sentence to Serve in last 2 years
- Improvements have resulted in increased usage of Mill Site.
- Future Plans
 - Maintain donated trees in upper area
 - Continue to remove invasives in upper area
 - Foster short grass prairie development by upper area ruins.
 - Remove invasives along Mill Stream
 - Remove vegetation from ruins.