

GLEF Meeting 2.18.24

500 to 6:00 PM Zoom

In attendance were:

Stephanie Baiyasi	stephaniebaiyasi@yahoo.com	989-450-6110
Ziggy Kozicki	zigpsych@sbcglobal.net	989-450-1451
Peggy Raddatz	peg.raddatz@gmail.com	
Ramona DeGeorgio-Venegas	mona_degeorgio@yahoo.com	231-690-6197
Shirley Madden	gspmadden@gmail.com	313-478-5347
Gary Madden	genie42br@gmail.com	313-478-6250
Judy Cunningham	jpc4466@gmail.com	231-794-0005
Quorum was present.		

Excused:

Sarah Stevenson	smstevenson@protonmail.com	313-570-9823
Lee Trucks	ltrucks@jackpine.com	231-510-6785
John Helge	Johnmhelge@gmail.com	616-915-2403
Karla Smith-Kasten	reuse@mybarc.org	231-492-6138
Kevin Postma	ridesoldbike@gmail.com	
Andrea Paine	alpaine@umich.edu	231-233-5353
Sue Mucha	suzma18@gmail.com	

Minutes motion to approve (Stephanie), Seconded (Gary), approved 7-0

Meeting Summary

Regarding Award Dinner

Shirley discussed restaurant and plastic reduction effort. This is a project that is still developing.

It was discussed and supported that there will be 5-6 awardees (Emporium, North Channel, Two Slices, Bee Smooth, Outsider) & Northern Spice for Guardian of the Environment Award. What is needed is a brief description to nominate an organization as to why they are going to receive this environmental action award. The Guardian of the Environment awardees are to be awarded a certificate after dessert, and need to explain what they do/did to eliminate plastics (or reduce CO₂ in the case of North Channel...). For Example:

Northern Spice Company

Dorrett Kata Spiceologist
Deanna Marsh Sales & Marketing
378 River St, Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 299-7492
www.northernspiceco.com

Environmental Action

The Northern Spice journey started long before the sale of their very first spice. "Our personal mission was and continues to be; to use only the freshest of spices and herbs, centering our meals for family and

friends around great taste and the highest of quality.” Northern Spice requires customers to transport their products in recyclable glass containers. Plastic containers are not used.

North Channel Brewing

86 Washington St, Manistee, MI 49660

(231) 299-1020

www.northchannelbrewing.com

Environmental Action

North Channel Brewing is an ode to the fascinating history of its hometown of Manistee, Michigan. “We weave Manistee’s story into everything we do.” The brewery utilizes carbon CO₂ capture from the fermentation process to carbonate its beer.

- GLEF will pay for dinner for each speaker attending the award dinner. The Guardian of the Environment awardees are to be awarded after dessert, and recipients will be asked to explain what they do/did to take environmental action for example eliminate plastics (or reduce CO₂ in the case of North Channel...). Desserts and coffee will be provided by GLEF.
- Ziggy mentioned that Meijer should be approached to ask if they would be interested in being a sponsor for the Award Dinner. The ask is \$500 cost for dinner hall use. There should be a table for the dessert and coffee and the awardees. Awardees will receive cardstock paper certificate (Shirley and Peggy will work develop this) and a window decal/emblem that Ramona is working on (4 in round) with Robert. GLEF webpage needs to be on the decal/emblem.
- Dinner description is placed in web site. Purchase of dinner can take place using the web page Clover application. Donations can also be made using the link on the web page. A QR code has been created to assist online purchases and donations.
- Dessert options from Ramona were discussed. Two (**bolded**) were chosen. Ziggy will look into another addition from Costco (bite-sized):
 - Peanutbutter bites - Peanutbutter, whole oats, raisins, sunflower seeds. Individual 1.5 ounce bite- 1.00 each (gluten free)
 - Homemade Caramels- individually wrapped, vanilla or plain available .50 Each (gluten free)
 - Shortbread Cookie- Petite cookie, available in lemon, lavender, or Plain 1.00
 - Brownie Bite with Frosting- petite brownie with chocolate buttercream and strawberry slice garnish- 2.00 each
 - >**Triple chocolate cookie**- petite cookie with depth of dark chocolate 1.25 each
 - Raspberry Ribbon cookie- shortbread cookie with raspberry filling 1.25 each
 - Biscotti - twice baked cookie with cranberry and pistachio 1.50 each
 - >**Fresh Fruit cup** with Honey Mint drizzle (gluten free) 1.50

Other Business.

- Gary discussed restaurant placemats as no longer feasible.
- Judy will be putting a cash donation into the bank account. Stephanie provided account numbers via e-mail. Two local banks are connected with GLEF.

- Judy thinks 30 tables at EXPO would be good? The local hospital will be contacted to participate at the EXPO (per Judy?) Gary will reach out to District 10 to come as well.
- Honor Society to hand out flyer. Gary wrote Honor Society and has not received a response yet and will write again. Honor Society exhibit table is also a potential display.
- We will need students to assist giving away 100 swag bags to people entering the GLEF. In addition to direct people at the event and pass out GLEF schedule.
- Movies at GLEF will be shown on the big screen in the expo hall and in the auditorium.
- Manistee News Advocate, Ludington, Benzie and Freshwater Reporter per Judy/Ramona. Need each presenter's bio and picture. Ziggy is meeting with Hearst Publications which owns several Michigan newspapers and has a digital network to develop a media advertising plan. Hearst Communications, Inc., often referred to simply as Hearst, is an American multinational mass media and business information conglomerate based in Hearst Tower in Midtown Manhattan in New York City.
- hearstmediamidwest.com
- Hearst Midwest Media Group
- 219 E Main St, Midland, MI 48640
- (989) 835-7171
- Each month, Hearst Midwest Media Group sees more than 1 million highly engaged unique visitors across 10 local news sites.

- Judy alerted us that the webpage "Festival" tab needs to be updated. Stephanie made some corrections online.
- Shirley will take care of the city council item to John for review.
- John will pursue the Rural Action alliance RMAA
- There is a new district ranger Chris Frederick in Manistee who starts March 1. Ramona will contact about having a table at GLEF
- Gary will connect with Karla at Bayside Recycling about being a expo participant at GLEF
- WSCC – Ramona will contact about EXPO
- Shirley/Peggy will contact Dannee about dessert for April.
- Judy will write up info for Church
- We need to promote GLEF!
- Gary will contact Council in Aging
- Discussion about adding Judy to the banking accounts.

- Kevin Postma will present and have guest speakers Genevieve Fox and Mary Ann Lessert in his classroom April 19, 2024.

- Book drawings will take place on the half hour as give-aways to people who drop in a attendance slip.

- Ziggy is developing press releases for Judy to hand out soon. Judy needs the 10 presenter's Bios. The bios are placed on the web page.

- Judy sent info for Stephanie to update Website.

- Ziggy will meet (met 2.23.24) with local Catholic Church reps to encourage them to participate and or place a notice in their bulletins. He has also been in contact with the Laudato Si Society to encourage them to be involved with GLEF. Laudato Si (Pope’s Encyclical about environment) has urged all Catholic communities to become involved in protecting our common home. ““LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore” – “Praise be to you, my Lord”. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.”
- Shirley is sending the council letter to John for review. This will be used to ask for their support.
- Ziggy and Steph will check into Costco cookies/muffins (bite-sized) as well. Update: what Costco has is not bite-sized...
- Judy will write up an agreement for churches. She will explain what this entails at the next meeting.
- Steph will work on the poster/flyer and run past us. Will be reviewed and approved at next meeting.
- Gary and Shirley will work on the cardstock awards.
 - Next meeting March 10th 5:00 PM Zoom
 - Submitted by Stephanie Baiyasi-Kozicki

GLEF 2024 Presenters

Anibal Bher

Anibal Bher has been serving as a Research Associate at the School of Packaging at Michigan State University since 2020, where he collaborates with Dr. Rafael Auras. His research interests are focused on biodegradable packaging, polymer processing, mass transfer, biodegradation, sustainability, and life cycle assessment (LCA). He holds a B.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from Misiones, Argentina, and a Ph.D. in Materials Science and Technology from the National University of San Martin, Buenos Aires, Argentina.



Albert Duoibes

Albert Duoibes is an executive, entrepreneur, and innovator with combined 35 year expertise in life science, agri-food supply chain valorization, sustainability, decarbonization, and renewable energy. He is passionate about using his skills to help businesses and organizations achieve their sustainability goals. He holds several US patents in these fields.

Duoibes is a highly skilled and experienced professional with a unique blend of technical expertise, business acumen, and creative thinking. He is adept at abstract thinking, communication, and problem-solving, and has a strong formal education in information technology and bio-science.

Duoibes is passionate about using his skills and expertise to help businesses and organizations achieve their sustainability goals. He is particularly interested in decarbonizing the food supply chain, developing new bioenergy solutions, and helping businesses make the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Duoibes is a firm believer that growth and innovation are essential for success in business. He has a proven track record of helping small to medium-size businesses develop and execute corporate and business development strategies that fit their unique needs. He is confident that his perspective and experience could also be an asset to large businesses.

Duoibes is a creative thinker who is always looking for new ways to connect the dots and develop innovative solutions. He is also a strong communicator and team player, and is passionate about building successful teams and businesses that make a positive impact on the world.



Les Eckert

Les Eckert, MBA, CEPC, CCE, AAC

Les Eckert is the Director of Culinary at Great Lakes Culinary Institute (GLCI) at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City, Michigan. Chef Eckert has been in the culinary industry for over 30 years, is a Certified Executive Pastry Chef and Certified Culinary Educator with the American Culinary Federation (ACF).

In 2022, Chef Eckert and the GLCI team added environmental stewardship to their overarching college strategic plan and embedded initiatives throughout their curriculum. Since then, students, faculty, and staff have been identifying what that means and looks like within their courses and the institute.



Jennifer Flynn - SEEDS

Jennifer expresses her love for the natural world by seeking regenerative solutions, weaving them into both personal and professional life. As an Ecopsychologist she values the reciprocal healing benefits shared between humans and the natural environment. Living in the mountains of North Carolina for the past 14 years, she worked as an eco therapist, a rural community and economic developer, and as a consultant for regenerative enterprises. As the leader of SEEDS EcoCorps Program, she incorporates ecopsychological design practices, business and skill development into the training program for those looking to engage with the natural world. Grounded in praxis, inspired by our natural community and her Michigan roots, Jennifer is a permaculture designer and herbalist. Over 50 medicinal herbal concoctions comprise her apothecary, made by her for family and friends. This avid hiker/dog walker is also a seamstress and a sculptor using clay, metal and natural materials.



Genevieve Fox - Environmental Journalism

Genevieve Fox is an award-winning environmental journalist who is now exploring the world of freelance. She primarily focuses on topics about environment, climate, health and solutions. Recently, she graduated from Michigan State University where she was a reporter for Great Lakes Echo and WKAR-Radio. There she dove into environmental journalism and gained experience in different reporting mediums like photography, short form videos, podcasts, and radio broadcasting. Since graduating, she has been freelance writing for different news outlets like Planet Detroit and Michigan Outdoor News. She is also the project editor for Metromode's Macomb series Live, Work, Play and Parks & Trails.



Maryann Lesert –

Maryann Lesert writes about people and place in equal measure. Her first novel, *Base Ten* (Feminist Press, 2009) followed an astrophysicist's quest for self among Lake Michigan's dunes and the stars. *Land Marks* (She Writes, 2024) is based on two years of boots-on-well-sites research on fracking in Michigan's state forests. Her plays have been published by *New Issues* and in Smith & Kraus's *Best Ten Minute* series. Her articles have appeared in *EcoWatch* and *In These Times*, and she is a regular presenter on art and activism. Maryann lives in west Michigan, where she teaches writing and writes by the big lake.



Kevin Postma

I am high school teacher at Manistee High School and a PhD candidate in Dr. Julianna Wilson's lab using the eddy covariance method to study the carbon dioxide exchange between apple orchards and the greater atmosphere. I am also investigating the use of deep-rooted, native grasses in orchard alleys as a means to increase soil carbon sequestration. While the goal is to increase soil carbon, I am also quantifying the impact that this plant community change has on the nematode and microbiome communities.



Dr. Joan Rose

Joan B. Rose holds the Homer Nowlin Chair in Water Research at Michigan State University and is the Director of the Water Alliance. <https://research.msu.edu/water-alliance>

She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering (2011) and winner of the 2016 Stockholm Water Prize. She is an international expert in water microbiology, water quality and public health safety. Her research focuses on the application of new molecular methods, pathogen surveillance, removal of pathogens by water and wastewater treatment and quantitative microbial risk assessment (>300 publications). She is currently collaborating with Michigan's environmental agency EGLE on the State-wide program on Wastewater Surveillance.



Lara Treemore-Spears –

Lara Treemore-Spears is a project manager with the Healthy Urban Waters program in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. She brings an interdisciplinary background in aquatic and terrestrial ecology, resource conservation behavior, brownfield redevelopment, water chemistry and wetland construction to her role coordinating complex research projects. At Wayne State prior to helping Dr. Wager manage the microplastics project, she designed and oversaw field operations for the Flint Area Community Health and Environment Partnership, coordinated Detroit engagement in ErieHack, oversaw improvements to the Huron-to-Erie Alliance for Research and Training Field Stations, and assisted in launching the Transformative Research in Urban Sustainability Training program.



Maya K. van Rossum - Green Amendment for the Generations Movement

Maya K. van Rossum is the Founder of the national Green Amendments For the Generations movement and organization. Maya, in her role as the Delaware Riverkeeper, was the lead and only environmental plaintiff in the landmark case *Robinson Township, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, et. al. v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania* case that breathed new life into Pennsylvania's long ignored environmental rights amendment. In the wake of this victory, van Rossum conceived of the vision that every state across the nation should have a constitutional environmental right as powerful as Pennsylvania's, and that ultimately an amendment of this kind should be passed at the federal level. In 2014, van Rossum coined the term "Green Amendment", carefully defined it, and proceeded on her Green Amendment journey. van Rossum wrote her award winning book, *The Green Amendment: The People's Fight for a Clean, Safe, and Healthy Environment*, which is now in its second edition.

Since its founding, Green Amendments For The Generations has inspired Green Amendment proposals (proposed or anticipated) in nearly 2 dozen states, as well as helping to lead the effort that secured passage of the New York Green Amendment in 2021.

van Rossum is also the Delaware Riverkeeper, leading the watershed-based advocacy organization, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, for over 30 years in its efforts to protect the health of the Delaware River and its tributaries.

Maya has received numerous awards and accolades over her career including earning the Giraffe Hero award, given to those who have the courage to stick their necks out for the common good. Her writings have been featured in such publications as Fortune Magazine, BloombergLaw, Law360, the Boston Globe, and TIME Magazine.

