Laurentian Vision Partnership

Meeting LXII Report

"Planning and Project Implementation 2016"

Laurentian Vision Partnership
Transforming pits and piles into lakes and landscapes

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
Mining and Reclamation Classroom I Chisholm, Minnesota
The Facilitator reviewed the past meeting results and next steps, highlighted meeting objectives and went over the agenda for today’s meeting.

Minnesota’s Iron Range mining and community landscapes are always changing. From the advent of new processes to reclaim iron units to the development of non-ferrous and potential iron making facilities, mining’s link with the land and communities continues to evolve. As existing mining operations expand physical footprints and new facilities are constructed, the relationship between mining and community growth is of increased importance to mining operations, cities, and citizens. LVP, through a collaboration of stakeholders, addresses the challenges of community expansion, resource protection, land retention, reclamation, environmental permitting, local revenue generation, and reuse.

The focus of this meeting is on several timely topics including Recharge the Range, a collaborative initiative to set a shared vision and action strategy for the Range as Commissioner Phillips and his team discuss progress and next steps; learn about community development issues management and ways to be successful as community and regional leaders in resolving significant and often polarizing issues; meet the new Iron Mining Association President and get an up-to-date report on the legislative session and what we might expect in the upcoming election year. We will review and provide an update on Innovation Grant projects and funding availability as well as Mine View relocation projects being proposed at multiple locations. Finally, we will hear progress reports from regional groups and work groups including information on mine mapping and Large Scale Regional Projects Map.

Laurentian Partnership Debriefing

- Participant introductions and expectations
- Opening comments
- Review of Meeting LXI results and next steps (January 2016)
- Overview of meeting objective and agenda

This panel provided an overview, progress and discussion of key elements of the Recharge the Range Initiative that has been underway the past five months in response to the downturn in the Iron Range economy. Commissioner Phillips explained why this initiative was launched and what we can expect as the process continues to unfold. He shared how a similar approach was taken on a regional scale in the 1980’s and how that effort galvanized regional leaders and organizations and got major work done that proved to be significant and positive for the region’s economic development needs. He went on to describe the meetings already held with business leaders, local community leaders and the Cool and Creative regional stakeholders this winter. On June 6th, a major regional event will be held at the Discovery Center to share the outcomes of these past meetings and launch Action Teams in priority areas that have come out of these discussions. He emphasized the importance of quality of life/place needs and how IRRRB is already responding to some of the things echoed to date. He further emphasized that this can’t be an all IRRRB solution and that other leaders and organizations need to step up and focus on those priorities that come out of this engagement process. He then introduced Joe Sertich of Sertich Consulting who has been facilitating this process and recognized members of the Arrowhead Growth Alliance (AGA) that have helped guide and support this effort.

Joe Sertich shared a Prezi slide presentation entitled “What Should we be Doing?” which described why this effort is underway, provided details on the meetings held in February with 120 business leader attending; local community leaders with 134 attendees and in April, the Cool and Creative Event with similar numbers. That was followed by introducing the Strong Towns engagement process with meeting and events held across the Iron Range led by Chuck Marohn of Strong Towns with a new web site created to
Jim Plummer and Whitney Ridlon, IRRB staff, provided details on the outcomes of the Cool and Creative event and the Strong Towns initiative led by Chuck Marohn in the past several weeks. These meetings were all well attended and people were energized and engaged. Recent outcomes have included downtown cleanup events being organized in several communities; an Iron Range Arts Group has formed; community events and initiatives have been highlighted such as the Ely downtown buildings rehab and ways this could be adapted in other communities and the list went on. They went on to share the key principles highlighted by Strong Towns and how communities have the power to engage and make change if they choose. Jim shared the Iron Range Strong Towns web site information and other details available on this concept and redevelopment model.

The panel presentations, perspectives and level of detail were well received by members, and the presenters were thanked.

P R E S E N T A T I O N

Building Authentic Community Relationships Based on Peace, Trust, and Continuously Seeking Local Consent

James Lukaszewski
President, The Lukaszewski Group

Jim introduced himself and his consulting group which is involved in change management and helping to address and manage social conflict by understanding attitudes, needs, and how to “Wage Peace.” He described his work globally with mining companies and other interests where conflicts exist around major new projects or significant change in areas. He went on to describe in detail and shared a take home CD which further highlights his perspective on how to “Wage Peace” in contentious, conflict situations such as the non-ferrous mining discussion going on in Minnesota and this region. He highlighted the rules and principles involved in managing engagement and attitudes; earning the “social license” to act; managing anger and seeking permission vs. trying to exercise entitlement; building trust by your actions and words and seeking a lot of voices; learning tolerance and understanding; and building alliances by listening and building like coalitions with broad and enlightened support. He described why people that get angry organize and feel like victims, and that their core values are threatened and they become more committed and intolerant as advisors. These situations can be managed by clearly understanding why this is happening and how you can wage peace and preempt these conditions as participants and leaders. He concluded by describing the difference between social license and the power of permission. He shared a handout of an example and addressed questions by members.

Mr. Lukaszewski’s presentation was well received by members; a copy of his handout is available on the LVP website at www.lvpmn.org. If you desire a copy of his CD please contact Jim Plummer, LVP Coordinator.

L E G I S L A T I V E  U P D A T E

Kelsey Johnson
President, IMA

Frank Ongaro
Executive Director, Mining Minnesota

John Ongaro
Intergov Relations Director, St. Louis County

This panel of area lobbyist’s just completed involvement at the 2016 legislative session which concluded two days ago. They were prepared to provide firsthand information on the highlights and how the session ended with a number of things remaining up in the air and may be addressed in a Special Legislative Session if called by Governor Dayton. Members were introduced to Kelsey Johnson, the new Iron Mining Association President who was hired this winter and was engaged throughout the session. Kelsey highlighted her background as a legislative staffer, lobbyist, and she also ran a national food and beverage trade association and recently ran for the legislature. She went on to describe how the session went, the major bills and focus areas and how it ended at the eleventh hour without a tax bill or bonding bill approved and what we might expect during the summer. She then covered and addressed questions on specific ferrous mining related legislation in the Supplemental Appropriations bill and work done to support KeeTac.

Frank Ongaro introduced himself and said that this session was relatively quiet on non-ferrous mining. He then highlighted funding included in the Supplemental Appropriations bill for MDNR related to NorthMet Project; how the Minerals Coordinating Committee was extended to 2026; and the inclusion of $2.6 million for NRRI to address several priority projects all related to addressing the long term sustainability of mining in Northeast MN. He went on to share how other LCCMR dollars will go to the U of M and MDNR to also support research for our regional mining efforts. That bill was approved and is expected to be signed by the Governor this week. He concluded by discussing a federal focus underway to stop non-ferrous mining, specifically PolyMet
and Twin Metals by the Department of the Interior and USFS and congressional representatives hoping to stop mining in the Rainy River Watershed.

John Ongaro introduced himself and explained St. Louis County’s legislative priorities and how these were tied to a lot of the bills already mentioned. He commented on property tax relief and LGA; authorizing tax forfeit land sales; the significance of the Southwest Light Rail Project inclusion in the proposed Bonding Bill and how that derailed things but that action also jeopardized $900 million in federal funding for that project with no action taken in the closing minutes of the session; specific projects such as road and bridge improvements, the AEOA Building and Range Mental Health; and concluded with an explanation of the Mineland Fencing Exemption Bill that passed to the floor but was not enacted. He explained some of the concerns with the bill and that this will be reworked and ready to introduce in the 2017 session. A group is working on this bill if anyone is interested in participating they should contact him.

The panel discussion was timely and helped to clarify the impacts of not passing major legislation at the end of the session. Members got their questions addressed and we should watch for a possible Special Session. No one is sure what might happen. No session is a possibility.

### PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

#### Regional Group Action Progress Reports

The following Regional Groups were present and provided an update on their major activities related to LVP. Copies of the handouts are available on the LVP website at [www.lvpmn.org](http://www.lvpmn.org).

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<tr>
<th>REGIONAL GROUP</th>
<th>CURRENT PROJECTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board (WMMPB)</td>
<td>A handout was shared highlighting seven key activities with mention of improvements to Highway 169 as 1.5 more miles are being upgraded to four lanes over two years and referenced Captive Rail and a task force that is working on funding development to study the connector needs for the west, central and east Range areas; and referenced the five other areas of priority.</td>
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<td>– Doug Learmont</td>
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<td>East Range Joint Powers Board (ERJPB)</td>
<td>Shared a handout and highlighted several major projects including shared services assessment for EMS and fire services; area comprehensive planning that is just beginning and recent developments of a major project at the Laskin Energy Business Park in Hoyt Lakes.</td>
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<td>– Curt Anttila</td>
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<td>Quad Cities – Bernie Collins</td>
<td>No reporting this quarter but a handout updating activities was shared by Bernie Collins for the meeting.</td>
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<td>Central Iron Range Initiative (CIRI)</td>
<td>Shared a handout updating the Iron Range Brownfields Program efforts both historically and recent work to secure more funding for additional Brownfield work. Pete announced that the federal EPA awarded CIRI/Virginia as fiscal agent, a $550,000 grant on May 20th. Work will begin to contract and start implementation involving 21 communities and townships across the Range. This was a collaborative team effort recognized and rewarded by EPA.</td>
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<td>– John Fedo, Ruck Crum &amp; Pete Kero</td>
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### PARTNERSHIP PRIORITIES

#### Work Group Action Progress Reports

Individual work group representatives provided the following reports and next steps.

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<th>Action Areas</th>
<th>Work Group Priorities</th>
<th>Work Group Representative(s)</th>
<th>Update/Next Steps</th>
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<tr>
<td>TARGETING PRIORITY PROJECTS</td>
<td>FY2016 and FY2017 Innovation Grants funding and proposed projects update</td>
<td>Jim Plummer, IRRRB</td>
<td>• Reported that $200,000 remains available in the FY 2016 Innovation fund. One project under consideration is the Redhead Bike Park in Hibbing. Not sure if this project will get funded yet. In terms of funding for FY 2017, the budget has not been finalized but a similar request was made this year. • Mine view locations are being impacted and will need to be moved to accommodate mining expansion in Virginia and Hibbing. We will be looking at dollars to plan and site these and possibly other locations. A task force may be needed to address these needs.</td>
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<td>• Funding update</td>
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<td>• Mine View Projects</td>
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<td>1. Mine Mapping Project Update</td>
<td>Tim Pastika, MDNR</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Reported on the availability of resource maps and the status of current mapping efforts.</td>
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Future Topics/Presentation Recommendations of LVP Coordinating Committee (Spring 2016)

The group discussed a number of possible discussion topics highlighted on the agenda by the Coordinating Committee. The following topics were highlighted as possible priorities for the October 2016 meeting, with others continuing on our list for future consideration in 2017:

- Strong Towns Initiative Update
- Regional Rail Coalition Competitive Rail Project Update
- Silver Bay Black Diamond Beach Innovation Grant Project – Administrator Lana Fralich and SEH Rep.

In addition to these proposed by the Committee, the following were highlighted by the membership today:

- Mineland Inspection Fencing Exemption – bill redraft for 2017 session
- NRRI Supplemental Funding Award – what will these funds be used for and what are the outcomes we can expect
- Iron Ore Alliance
- Recharge the Range Updates
- MnDOT Business Focus Groups Input – Duane Hill
- Mine View Locations Planning

The Coordinating Committee will meet and develop the next agenda based on this input.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Coordinating Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon at the Mining and Reclamation Classroom, at Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisholm. Work Group and Regional Group representatives will be asked to assist in developing the October 2016 membership meeting agenda.

LVP QUARTERLY MEETING

The next Laurentian Vision Partnership meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 from 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the Mining and Reclamation Classroom at Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisholm. Please note that this date was later change to Wednesday, October 19th same time and location.
MEETING OBJECTIVE

Minnesota’s Iron Range mining and community landscapes are always changing. From the advent of new processes to reclaim iron units to the development of non-ferrous and potential iron making facilities, mining’s link with the land and communities continues to evolve. As existing mining operations expand physical footprints and new facilities are constructed, the relationship between mining and community growth is of increased importance to mining operations, cities, and citizens. LVP, through a collaboration of stakeholders, addresses the challenges of community expansion, resource protection, land retention, reclamation, environmental permitting, local revenue generation, and reuse.

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PROPOSED AGENDA

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<th>Time</th>
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| 9:00 | Laurentian Partnership Debriefing | Randy Lasky, Facilitator  
- Participant introductions and expectations  
- Opening comments  
- Review of Meeting LXI results and next steps (January 2016)  
- Overview of the meeting objective and agenda |
| 9:15 | PRESENTATION: Recharge the Range/Strong Towns/Cool & Creative Initiatives | Mark Phillips, Commissioner, IRRRB  
Dr. Joseph Sertich, Sertich Consulting  
Whitney Ridlon, Community Development, IRRRB  
Jim Plummer, Coordinator, LVP  
Learn about the latest efforts of the IRRRB to engage the Range, identify pathways for the future, prioritize them and begin implementation |
| 10:00 | PRESENTATION: Building Authentic Community Relationships Based On Peace, Trust, and Continuously Seeking Local Consent | James Lukaszewski, President  
The Lukaszewski Group  
Jim Lukaszewski is a native Minnesotan and established an international reputation managing and mitigating crises, problems, and leadership failures that result from community contentiousness. |
| 11:00 | Break |  |
| 11:15 | Legislative Update | Kelsey Johnson, President, IMA  
Frank Ongaro, Executive Director, Mining Minnesota  
John Ongaro, Intergovernmental Relations Director, St. Louis County  
Kelsey Johnson  
Frank Ongaro  
John Ongaro  |
| 11:45 | Partnership Priorities: Regional Group Action Progress Reports | Doug Learmont  
Curt Anttila  
Charlie Baribeau and Bernie Collins  
John Fedo, Rick Crum, and Pete Kero  
- What’s happening in regional areas across the Iron Range?  
  - Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board (WMMPB)  
  - East Range Joint Powers Board (ERJPB)  
  - Quad Cities  
  - Central Iron Range Initiative (CIRI) |
Noon  Partnership Priorities: Work Group Action Progress Reports

**Targeting PRIORITY PROJECTS**

- FY 2016 and FY 2017 Innovation Grants funding and proposed projects update
- Mine View Relocation Projects Planning

Jim Plummer, IRRRB

**12:15 Delivering TOOLS and RESOURCES**

- Mine Mapping Project Update
  Tim Pastika, MDNR
- Large Scale Projects Mapping update (new approach/format)
  Dan Jordan, IRRRB and Tim Pastika, MDNR

**12:20 Other Business Updates and Future Topics**

- **Future Topics/Presentation Recommendations of LVP Coordinating Committee (Fall 2016)**
  - Strong Towns Initiative Update
  - Regional Rail Coalition Competitive Rail Project Update
  - Silver Bay Black Diamond Beach Innovation Grant Project – Administrator Lana Fralich and SEH Rep.

- **Future Topics/Presentations (Fall 2016 and beyond)**
  - Soudan Mine Water historic significance
  - PolyMet project update
  - Bio-industrial projects update
  - Recharge the Range Update
  - Quad Cities T.H. 53 relocation/alignment construction update
  - Iron Range Regional Planning – A regional approach to balancing immediate and long-term mining land retention needs and sustainability expectations with community growth and development needs
  - Regional environmental issues
  - Discharge Water Sulfate Concentrations and Impacts Study (MPCA Wild Rice Study)/MPCA standard application approach and implications for region
  - EPA Federal Haze Rules and Regulations and Federal Land Exchange
  - Proposed carbon rules and regulations – Clean Power Plan
  - Mercury air emissions study
  - Iron ore price projections for the next 25-50 years
  - Reclamation needs for changing stockpiles – How will reclamation needs and economic development opportunities be addressed as stockpiles are moved and reused across the Iron Range?
  - Future underground mining?
  - Alternative iron-making evolution
  - Titanium mining development – new technology
  - Cooperative Mineral Resources, an overview of a proposed ManganiFerrous Iron Ore Mining Project
  - Future Charrettes for Quad Cities/Highway 53, KeeTac, and PolyMet/East Range areas
  - New Innovation Grant project proposals and existing projects
  - Mesabi Nugget project update
  - Twin Metals project update
  - Magnetation update
  - Essar update
  - Create liaison with political representatives
  - Recognize role as forum (strategy on this); state, federal, and county levels
  - Expand the scope of our mineral focus beyond iron

Facilitator

**12:25 What’s Next?**

- Meeting Schedule (October 2016 and January 2017)
- Meeting date and agenda
  - **Coordinating Committee** – Sep 14, 2016
  - Representative from each work group and each sub-regional group
  - **Laurentian Vision Partnership** – Oct 26, 2016
- Wrap up announcements and conclusions

Facilitator

**12:30 Adjourn**
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<th>Name (Please Print Clearly)</th>
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