

## **2017 Islands Summit: Laying the Foundation for a Great Lakes Islands Coalition**

Event Hosts: The Beaver Island Community

Central Michigan University Biological Station

Beaver Island, Michigan

September 25-26, 2017

### **Sunday, September 24**

6:00 pm Group Dinner, Meet & Greet for Sunday arrivals

### **Monday, September 25**

8:00 am Breakfast and coffee

#### **Session 1: Setting the Stage**

9:00 am Opening Remarks

- Welcome, Summit structure & objective, housekeeping (Beaver Island Community)
- Background (Jon Allan, Director, Michigan Office of the Great Lakes)
- What is Possible (Rob Snyder, President, Island Institute)

9:30 am Brief Introductions – name, island (or mainland organization), role(s)/title(s) (All)

9:45 am Where are the Year-Round Island Communities?

- Overview of Islands of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region (Matt Preisser, Michigan OGL)
- Summary of Island Data & the Value of Indicators (Brandon Hofstedt, Northland College-Center for Rural Communities)

10:00 am Break

10:15 am Summary of Attendee Poll: Top Island Challenges & Successes/Points of Pride

- Starter discussion about commonalities between represented islands (detailed discussion on Day 2)

11:00 am Models of Coordination – The “Maine Experience”

- The Island Institute: History, Programs, Roles (Rob Snyder)
- Example Solutions: Community Indicators, What Works Inventory, Island Fellows Program, Conferences, Maine Islands Coalition (Karen Burns and Kate Tagai, Island Institute)
- Q&A

12:00 pm Lunch

Session 2: Beaver Island Community Tour

- 1:00 pm Field Trips – guided tours of key sites to spur discussion on specific subjects.
- 4:00 pm Conclude Day 1 (down time, informal networking, optional sight-seeing or shopping)
- 6:00 pm Dinner & evening bonfire

**Tuesday, September 26**

- 8:00 am Breakfast and coffee

Session 3: Exploring the Needs of Great Lakes Island Communities

- 8:30 am Welcome back, recap Day 1 & the plan for Day 2 (Beaver Island Community)
- 8:45 am Open Discussion: Common Threads Observed between Islands (facilitated by Island Institute staff)
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:15 am Discussion (continued)
- 12:00 pm Lunch

Session 4: Setting up an Inter-Island Framework for Communication and Collaboration

- 1:00 pm Small Group Discussion: Are we more powerful as a group than individually? Is there value in forming a “Great Lakes Islands Coalition”? What would it look like?
- Sample questions provided
- 2:00 pm Report out to full group
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm Reflections and Next Steps (Madeline Island Community)
- 3:45 pm Concluding Remarks (Beaver Island Community)
- 4:00 pm Summit ends
- 6:00 pm Optional Group Dinner for those remaining