A Motion was made by Jay Sam to accept the offer of Kevin D. set up a conference call for further discussion of the MDOT MoU. Second by Veronica and carried with none opposed or abstaining.

A Motion was made by Jay to approve Treasurer’s report as submitted, seconded by Sydney Martin and carried with none opposed or abstaining.

UM Repatriation: Return to Open Session motion by Jay, seconded by Kevin and carried with no opposition or abstentions.
Veronica moved that MACPRA send representatives to smudge the remains and that Sydney Martin and George Martin lead the representatives. Mark seconded and the motion carried with none opposed or abstaining.

Kevin moved to have a conference call on June 2 at 10AM to discuss topics in reference to the UM repatriation issues (DNA materials return, Prof. Meriwether issues, condition of remains at UM and repatriation of the remains.) Dan Shepard seconded and motion carried with none opposed or abstaining.

Wesley Andrews discussed introducing topics for workshops and training for MACPRA members. He will be contacting the board members about what areas could be needed, even within each community. NAGPRA, NHPA and Section 106 reviews, language preservation ideas etc. Could also be used as a needs assessment. Maybe a Conference once a year for the trainings and such would be good.
Winnay said she is working on a large conference for all agencies – a pooling of our resources.

Kevin Daugherty discussed a call from WMU to begin discussion for return of remains. They have a meeting scheduled at Pokagon Band for June 1 at 6 PM.

Kevin moves to adjourn, seconded by Mark and passed without opposition or abstentions.
Meeting adjourned at 4:11 PM EST
agenda, topics and perhaps taking part in the trainings. She said they had a volunteer from Pokagon who would be helping with or presenting the training at Jackson. Contact her if there is an interest.

Margaret then made a plug for the MDOT Tribal accord. Dan S. said Little River Band of Ottawa Indians had signed the accord.

Mark said he would assist with the Grayling training.

Jim Robertson stated he is meeting with all 12 Federally Recognized Tribes and the 2 State Recognized Tribes and has met with 9 of them. Once he has met with all of them he will begin the process again.

Discussion on NAGPRA and MDOT’s implementation with the State Archeologist was held. MDOT stated their position they must follow the MI Attorney General’s opinion and so would still require a non-invasive exam of remains to determine age, sex and ethnicity of individuals once determined to not be a crime scene. Copies of the inadvertent discovery protocol were handed out, with item shown as #3 highlighted or noted.

Ellie A. asked if the state had documents or required documents concerning age, sex, ethnicity. Jim replied no. He said the Police determine on-crime and the State Archeologist then has the authority regarding remains. Specificity would be based on situation.

Ellie A. said she provided documents to MSP with the information and will send on to MDOT and others on request.

Veronica asked if this was statewide or by community. She also stated surprise that the State would have final say.

Margaret replied it was due to the right of way being “State land” Jim added the OSA has legal authority over state lands.

Wes Andrews asked where State gets its authority to enter into agreement with Tribes. Tribes share a government to government relationship with the Federal government, and are not on same level as State.

Jim replied the agreement would not supersede the Federal Highway Administration.

Margaret said it was work on the day to day operations to handle inadvertent discoveries; They are not empowered to make an agreement. Other states have done agreements with tribes regarding consultation. They are seeking guidance on how to move or what to do regarding these issues and next steps. If we have a discovery how do we notify the tribes? Who do they notify?

William Johnson commented about the engineer investigating the site, and asked if it was the entire site or only the discovery location?

Jim replied that it was the discovery location. The contractors are instructed to stop and contact Jim.

Willie said the Flint Stone St. work continued until it was discovered the entire site was a burial site.

Jim said he would like to think that wouldn’t happen in that way, he said he will require that contracts be amended if that was a concern.

Ellie A. asked if there was a phase I required for projects.

Jim said yes, unless it is in an urban or other setting that would prevent one.

Break for Lunch, joined by Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Council members: Janine Sam (Recorder), Sandy Mezeske, Candace Chapman, Lee Sprague and Loretta Beccaria. Ms Sam and Mr. Sprague made remarks welcoming the members of MACPRA to Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. It was noted the Tribe’s Ogema, Council Speaker were out of town.

Meeting was resumed in Closed Session to discuss MDOT and UM.

Only the Open Session actions are recorded.

MDOT: Return to open session by acclamation.
Marilyn said it was agreed that the affiliated remains will be held until the unaffiliated are collected. Veronica asked if Tribes should push for affiliation to avoid having unaffiliated objects. Marilyn responded by saying the GRPM is not separating unaffiliated from affiliated. Sydney stated she would like to recognize the GRPM, Marilyn and her crew for their fine work and wished that other institutions would follow the example set by them. She then said “Thank you Marilyn”. This was followed by a discussion on the lack of fear in going forward. Marilyn said she will be taking part in the Association of Midwest Museum’s conference in October and discussing repatriation along with Karen Obrien of U of M. Mark Russell asked for the information on the conference.

William Johnson mentioned the delay with the CMU repatriation for similar reasons and stated they would keep the remains together.

Mark Russell updated the University of Nebraska repatriation. Things are going smooth with the grant process. Most likely the funding should be available after Memorial Day. There are two sets of remains and 27 associate items. Expecting June or July for travel. Winnay recommended flying down and driving back, Mark replied the time for return travel would be prohibitive. Mark then asked about reburial celebration and attendance by public etc. It was stated this is a celebration, and so all right. Mark thanked MACPRA for all the support in this matter.

{Kevin Daugherty arrived at this point.}

Flint Stone Street update was given by William Johnson. An email was sent regarding this recovery. The site is reopened, 30 total reburials so far. Willie said “When you cradle adults, teens, babies, old people you realize the work is bigger than all of us”. Reburial was in November, a cold rainy day and a two hour ceremony with George Martin, who took care of each of the remains. An appeal was made to have MACPRA fund the effort at the same level as 2009. They are about one quarter done; there is 50,000 cubic feet of back dirt to do yet. They will be going from May to November this year, longer than last year. Sydney Martin asked how much was funded last year. The answer was $2000. Wesley Andrews commented on site and work. He visited last fall. Described area using room elements, emphasizing the volume of dirt is very large. The dirt has been sitting and so vegetation needs to be dealt with. Said it is not easy work. Also appealed for support and stated the ancestors appreciate it.

Ellie Andrews also commented how big the job is, and that she had to give emotional support and could do computer related work as well. The conditions of the remain breaks her heart as they are broken in fragments in many cases. Veronica made a motion to fund at same amount as last year. Due to lack of Treasurer’s report item was held for discussion.

William spoke about receiving assistance from the National Guard/Army Reserve. Ellie commented on the many ways of knowing things. Motion to allocate funding of $2000 to support Saginaw Chippewa’s continuation of this effort contingent upon the availability of funds, motion by Mark with second by Veronica. Motion carried with none opposed or abstaining.

MDOT Update Margaret Barondess, Jim Robertson
Margaret stated MDOT is always looking for feedback. She said 2011 will have a reduced program of construction, about a 50% cut. They do not anticipate building any new roads, mostly repairing and maintaining existing roads. MDOT remains very committed to working with the tribes. She is putting together 2 internal trainings on working with the tribes. One in Jackson and one in the north in Grayling, with topics of history, culture etc. She asked for assistance with
Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance

Spring Quarterly Meeting  May 25, 2010

Little River Casino Resort

Winnay Wemigwase chaired in absence of Summer. Jay Sam agreed to take notes/minutes.

Opening ceremony included a smudge and Sema offering by Jay and Dan, followed by a prayer offered by Jay Sam of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Roll call taken by sign in sheet. The question of a quorum was raised and it was determined there was a quorum present.

Agenda - The agenda was adjusted to reflect persons who could not make the meeting, having their items removed. Dan Shepard moved to accept the agenda as modified, William Johnson seconded. Motion carried with none opposed or abstaining.

Minutes of the January 27, 2010 meeting were reviewed. The following modifications were made:

Page 1: Roll Call = add SCIT as present as Shannon Martin was at in attendance.
Under motion to approve minutes of October meeting, change Samm to Sam.
Under LTBB – Presentation of NAGPRA change Wemigwase to Wemigwase.

Page 3: Under Cecil Pavlat use of tobacco change to read “Resolution 2010-001 as amended with changes to asema for tobacco” - remainder of sentence remains the same.
Page 4: Change first paragraph to read “Shannon Martin/SCIT appeal for MACPRA for the participation of spiritual leaders for the CMU reburial, 144 reburials, scheduled for May 13-14 in Mt. Pleasant. Appealing to MACPRA for asema pouches, and identifies spiritual people in each of our communities for this project. Provided appeal list for May reburial. Presented an update from William Johnson regarding the Flint MI reburial – Parcel A was completed in November, 21 plus individuals. On November 20, 2009 they were reburied. Parcel C on the other side of house and work has been going now and it will resume in May on this second parcel. A press release from Flint MI was presented.
Motion by Sydney Martin, Second by William Johnson to approve minutes with changes. Motion carried with none opposed or abstaining.

Treasurers Report was unavailable at this time, but Winnay said she would check at the first break to see if it had arrived.

Old Business
Grand Rapids Public Museum update on disposition Marilyn Merdzinski presenting:
Sent the notice of completion and received final copy to sign off and return to the Interior Department for review and approvals. The timeline was given as 25 -60 business days. The best case would be returned at the end of June, worst case July. Then the 30 days posting in Federal Register would follow in July or August, meaning the disposition is most likely in September.
Sydney Martin, George Martin and Ron Yob reviewed the UFO’s at the Museum.
The Museum has received an extension on its grant and so will begin work with the southern Tribes and those of other states (Illinois).