

**Ad Hoc McMurdo Advisory Committee
Crary Science and Engineering Center
McMurdo Station, Antarctica
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Introduction

Dr. Nelia Dunbar, MAC Chair

Nelia welcomed the participants and introduced the McMurdo Advisory Committee Members. The McMurdo Advisory committee (MAC), formerly the McMurdo Area Users' Committee (MAUC), is an advisory committees comprised of McMurdo-based scientists who advise Raytheon Polar Services (RPSC) of issues important to the community. MAC will convene twice annually, with an Ad Hoc meeting in McMurdo.

Contractor Change, & Continuing RPSC Support for Advisory Committees

Dr. Don Atwood, Director of Science Support, RPSC

Don welcomed the attendees and presented the name change from the McMurdo Area Users' Committee to the McMurdo Advisory Committee. Don presented the Science Support Organizational chart and reported that 90% of the incumbent staff was successfully recruited. The Science Support Advisory Board was introduced and the Boards' responsibilities include: RPSC initiative to gather recommendations for supporting USAP, distance learning, focusing on K-12 education, availability of internship programs, promotion of ethnic diversity in workforce, and maintaining current knowledge in leading-edge technologies.

Electronic Support Planner and Proposals

Katie Kish, ESP Project Lead & Karin Copley, Manager of Planning Process

Katie presented the Electronic Support Planner, the tool that will be used for SIP submissions in the 2001-2002 season. Karin informed the committee that she is investigating the existing planning process and invited the grantees to contact her regarding suggestions.

Skidoo and Spryte and Replacement Fleet

Steve Dunbar, Manager of Field Support

Chris Shuman of the ITASE group stated the current inventory of ECW gear is inadequate for their project and asked Steve to comment on the replacement plan for ECW gear. Steve replied that the majority of attention was focused on improvements of Palmer clothing this year. As budgets allow McMurdo will see further improvements.

Action Item 1 – Steve Dunbar will e-mail an ECW survey to grantees gathering suggestions on clothing and vendors to meet the needs of the general grantee community..

Skidoo fleet replacement is under way. MEC will support a small fleet of Alpine 1s with the intent to cannibalize the remaining fleet. Skandic skidoos, the product best positioned to replace the Alpine 1 and Alpine 2, do fit in a Twin Otter and have been outfitted with cleats for blue ice work. Front racks have been designed for backpack or survival bags and baskets for the rear of the machines are being tested this season. Four suspension skied sleds are also being field-tested to address the issue of limited space on the new machine. If this season's field tests are successful, production of cargo racks and sleds will increase for the Skandics.

RPSC procured 6 Skandics for this year's vessel which were the only units still available in North America from this year's production.. RPSC is positioned to procure 13 additional vehicles for the 2001-2002 vessel. In addition, there is a proposal for a fleet replacement buy which would increase this order to over 50 Skandiks if funded.

Action Item 2 –Steve was asked to investigate the possibility of providing one cargo ramp per aircraft to ease the loading and unloading of snow machines and drums.

Spryte fleet replacement is currently under investigation and two vendors, Pisten Bully/Kassborer and Bombarier, have been identified thus far. Each vendor offers a product with hydrostatic drive and diesel engines. The success of this season's Mac Track field test may factor into the decision.

Action Item 3. Steve requested feedback from the community to assist RPSC in determining the demand for Sprytes and to assist RPSC with procurement of an adequate vehicle fleet. Worksheet should be submitted to Steve by the end of the month. E-mail for fax comments are welcome. Worksheets are available in the MEC.

Tucker pulling power or plans for a Tucker replacement plan was an issued raised. RPSC is in the early stages of identifying Tucker replacements. Concerned individuals should contact Dr. Sridhar Anandakrishnan or Bill Haals of RPSC.

Capital Equipment Wish List

Robbie Score, Supervisor of Laboratory Operations

The current Wish List for equipment the MAC deems desirable to augment the Crary Lab equipment stores is comprised of the following items: time series sedimentation traps, aeolian traps, laser doppler current meter, down-hole gamma spectrometer. Contact Robbie to add items to the list.

New Housing Guidelines

Bob Tellez, General Manager of Station Services

New housing guidelines were discussed at the Annual Planning Conference in May, 2000. One goal of Housing this season was to consolidate the various work groups; 203 B was selected to be the grantee housing of choice with PIs and Co-Is residing in 208. Housing Guideline draft document was completed prior to Mainbody and is available on the McMurdo Intranet.

Status of New Construction in McMurdo

Mark Neely, Manager of FEMC

During the 1998-1999 field season, McMurdo construction switched from a maintenance mode to a construction mode with the remodeling of building 203. Last winter, construction on building 155 commenced with 102 positions wintering to complete the project. The upstairs remodeling will begin this coming winter. The Science Support Center will be done in two phases. The Phase 1 will begin in 2002-2003 with the MEC and Field Safety Training Center. In 2003-2004, the MEC will be torn down and Phase II to include BFC and Science Cargo. Mark will make the blue prints for the Science Support Center available in Crary.

The heat recovery project is in force. Safety is being addressed in the construction, with particular emphasis in fire suppression issues.

Past Action Items

Due to time constraints, this agenda item was skipped.