

CITY OF MARINE CITY

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

AGENDA

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, July 16, 2013; 6:00PM

Marine City Fire Hall: 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:** Chairperson Kim Turner; Commissioners William Beutell, Heather Bokram, Todd May, Amber Menchaca, Scott Tisdale, and Judith White; and, City Manager John Gabor
4. **APPROVE AGENDA (Additions / Deletions)**
5. **APPROVE MINUTES**
 - A. Historical Commission Regular Meeting ~ April 16, 2013
6. **COMMUNICATIONS**
 - A. 2013 Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program Grant Application
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT** *Residents are welcome to address the Historical Commission. Please state name and address. Limit comments to five (5) minutes.*
8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Study Committee Update
 - Peche Island Rear Range Light
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**City of Marine City
Historical Commission Meeting
April 16, 2013**

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Commissioners Todd M. May and Kim A. Turner were sworn into office by City Clerk Diana Kade.

A regular meeting of the Historical Commission was held in the Fire Hall, 200 South Parker Street, Marine City, Michigan, on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, and was called to order by Chairperson Scott Tisdale at 6:00 PM.

Present: Chairperson Tisdale; Commissioners Beutell, Bokram, May, Turner and White; City Manager Gabor; City Clerk Kade; and, Deputy Clerk Singer.

Absent: Commissioner Menchaca

Election of Officers

Motion by Commissioner Bokram, seconded by Commissioner Tisdale, to nominate and appoint Commissioner Kim Turner as Chairperson. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Board Member Bokram, seconded by Commissioner Turner, to nominate and appoint Commissioner Scott Tisdale as Vice Chairperson. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Bokram, seconded by Commissioner Beutell, to approve the Agenda, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Tisdale, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve the regular Historical Commission Minutes of October 16, 2012, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Chairperson Turner, seconded by Commissioner Tisdale, to approve the regular Historical Commission Minutes of January 15, 2013, as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Communications

No communications were presented.

Public Comment

James Turner, 361 North Main Street, Marine City, told the Historical Commission that they were doing a great job; and, congratulated Commissioner May on his appointment to the Historical Commission.

Unfinished Business

Historic District Ordinance

Commissioner White reported that she was making arrangements to have a representative from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network address the City Commission at a future meeting on the importance of the proposed Historic District Ordinance.

Commissioner Tisdale commented on the action taken by the City Commission on November 15, 2012, and noted that the motion to adopt the proposed Ordinance failed by a 3 / 3 vote. He suggested that the Historical Commission resubmit the proposed Ordinance to the City Commission.

Lengthy discussion ensued, and the Historical Commission agreed that an outside expert could provide supportive information to the City before asking the City Commission to act upon it.

Motion by Commissioner Beutell, seconded by Commissioner Bokram, to resubmit the proposed Ordinance to repeal the existing Historic District Restoration Commission and replace same with a Historic District Ordinance to the City Commission for adoption. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Commissioner White also shared her thoughts on becoming a certified local government; however, it was noted that the City's population needed to be increased to 5,000 in order to become eligible.

New Business

Study Committee Update ~ Creation of New Historic District

Commissioner White reported that the Study Committee had not met; however, she had been working on putting together information for a South Water Street Historic District for the City's three buildings: Water Filtration Plant, Peche Lighthouse, and the Guy Community Center. She said she needed help researching the deeds on the buildings.

The Study Committee members were identified as Commissioners Bokram, White and Turner, along with Rebecca Lepley.

Discussion concluded with Commissioner May noting that they needed to continue to move forward with research.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Beutell, seconded by Commissioner Tisdale, to adjourn at 6:54 PM. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana S. Kade
City Clerk

6A



STATE OF MICHIGAN

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SCOTT WOOSLEY, CFA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

May 31, 2013

John Gabor, City Manager
City of Marine City
303 S. Water Street
Marine City, MI 48039

Re: 2013 Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program Grant Application:

Dear Mr. Gabor:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has received and reviewed nine 2013 Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program (MLAP) grant applications requesting over \$300,000 in assistance. Due to the number of applications received and the amount of funding requested, the 2013 grant cycle is very competitive. In addition, the administration of SHPO grants is a worthwhile but time consuming endeavor. We are currently administering a large number of grants and consequently must carefully select any new grants in order to be able to effectively and efficiently administer those grants. For the 2013 grant cycle, we have selected only the highest scoring applications.

As a result, we regret to inform you that the 2013 MLAP grant application submitted by your organization has not been selected for funding.

Following are some observations made by the reviewers regarding the 2013 MLAP grant application for the Peche Island Rear Range Light Station:

1. The Peche Island Rear Range Light Station is not listed in, nor is it eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Peche Island Rear Range Light dates from 1908, but has been moved, apparently from across the river in Canada, the move taking place as recently as 1983. It has lost its integrity of location by being relocated from its historic site and is no longer part of a range light system, and worse for eligibility to the NRHP, it has been relocated from another country. Although an important artifact of marine heritage and transportation history from the area, it was built by the Canadians and does not fit into the broad context of U.S. lighthouses on the Great Lakes. Thus this grant application is not eligible for funding.

If you would like to discuss your 2013 grant application or the above items in more detail, please email Denise J. Sachau at sachaud1@michigan.gov to request a conference call time. Denise and Bryan Lijewski will be happy to discuss your 2013 application.

Sincerely,

Brian Conway
State Historic Preservation Officer

State Historic Preservation Office
Michigan Library and Historical Center • 702 West Kalamazoo Street • P.O. Box 30740 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8240
michigan.gov/shpo • 517.373.1630 • FAX 517.335.0348 • TTY 800.382.4568

Peche Island Rear Range Light



One of Michigan's beautiful lighthouses. This lighthouse, now in Marine City, was originally built in 1908 off Peche Island, Ontario, at the head of the Detroit River.

The light was originally erected as a rear range light on Peche Island. The ranges marked the down-bound channel from Lake St. Clair to the entrance to the Detroit River.



Sent via e-mail only, no hard copy to follow.

June 12, 2013

Michigan State Historic Preservation Office
Attn: Brian Conway
702 West Kalamazoo Street
PO Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909-8240

Dear Mr. Conway:

The Michigan Lighthouse Conservancy would like to clear up some recent confusion regarding the information presented about the Peche Island Range Lights in which the former Peche Island Rear Range Light was moved to Marine City, MI. from its former location in Lake St. Clair. I would like to present some facts to clear up any confusion about this lighthouse that is being published.

According to a recent article that was published (see attachment) and quoted by SHPO is the fact that Canadians built the lighthouse and it is alluded to that the lighthouse was in Canadian waters. These facts are incorrect. The US Lighthouse Service built the range lights in this location and employees from the US Lighthouse Service manned the lights at the head of the Detroit River in Lake St. Clair just inside the US Border and Light Lists, Nautical Charts, and payroll information document these facts.

Figure-1 is a 1908 nautical chart of Lake St. Clair showing the subject lights. The name of the lights changed over time and in 1908 they were named the Isle Aux Peches Range Lights. Figure-2 is a nautical chart from 1919 documenting them as the Peach Island Range Lights in the same location and in this chart the International Boundary is mapped clearly showing them on the US side of the international border. Figure-3 is a present day nautical chart showing the range still active in the same location named the Peche Island Range Lights, again on the US side of the border.

Great Lakes Light Lists are historical books noting each lighthouse and the facts about them. These books published by the US Lighthouse Service prior to 1939 and afterwards by the US Coast Guard every year. Figure -4 is a scanned image of the 1931 Great Lakes Light List showing them listed as US Light List inventory numbers 471 & 472. It also very briefly describes their characteristics.

Figure-5 consists of a partial listing of the Light Keepers on the payroll of the US Lighthouse Service which serviced these lights. The US would not have Canadians on the US payroll as light keepers. While there has always been a working relationship between countries on an international border such as that of Michigan and Canada, each country is responsible for maintaining the lights on each side respectively.

Part of the reason these and several other lighthouses were never included when the National Lighthouse Inventory Project was done is because at the time one of the determining factors for the lights to be eligible was did they have an extant resident Keepers dwelling or not. Because these lights did not at the



P.O. Box 973
Fenton, MI. 48430
(810) 750-9236

time have a keepers dwelling they were not included in the published documentation as well as an eligibility made for the national register at the time.

With the known information at the time, these lights missed out in being recognized as historically significant. The front light had a custodial dwelling meant for temporary stays by the Keeper, which allowed them safety at the lights if incimate weather developed, but the residence was on shore and they serviced these lights via boat.

Also stated in the article from SHPO was that because the lighthouse was moved in the 1980's, it was not eligible for funding. If the lighthouse was not moved, see Figure-6, the lighthouse would have been lost. While this particular lighthouse might not currently be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, it is most likely eligible and probably because nobody has pursued a formal nomination for it, some of these facts have not been know other than by incorrect information published on the internet and other sources which has not been corrected.

Because it was moved does not mean it still can't be considered historic and eligible for the National Register as many historic buildings have been moved on the National Register, one of the most famous lighthouse examples being that of Cape Hatteras in North Carolina being moved to save it from collapsing into the sea and losing the resource forever. I can think of numerous other lighthouses that have been moved as well that are eligible or listed in the National Register.

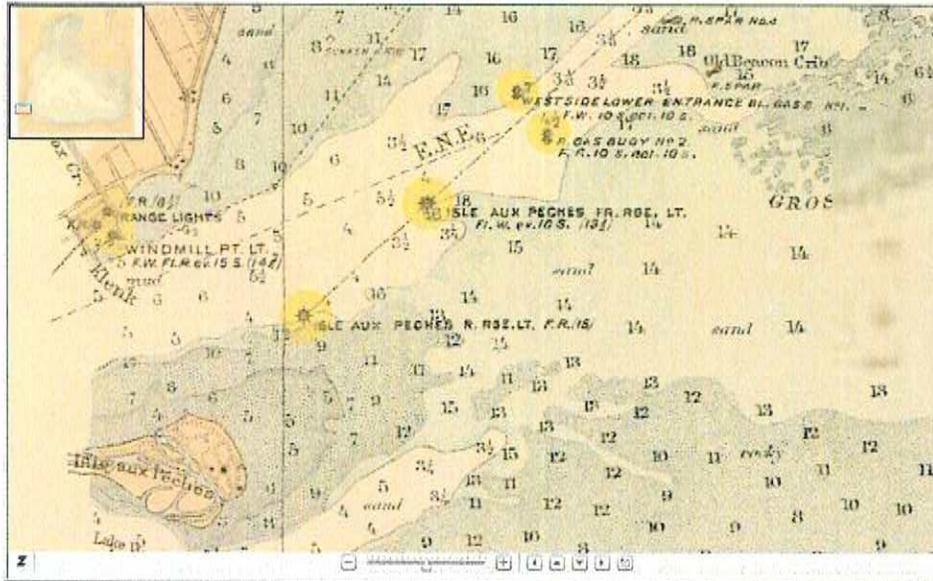
In the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Grant Manual under the "who can apply" section, there is no mention here or anywhere else in the manual that states that the grants cannot be applied for or awarded to any lighthouses that are only eligible for or already included in the National Register of Historic Places, only that they must follow the Secretary of the Interior Standards and it must be a lighthouse in Michigan not privately owned.

I wanted to present these facts so that number one, information could be corrected moving forward and secondly to make sure this grant was not overlooked due to some erroneous facts that were reported and can be cleared up now and I wanted to make sure they were corrected and if given the chance, the Peche Island Rear Range Light, being a Michigan lighthouse that needs to be preserved could participate in the grant program after the information presented was reviewed and given a second look. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above phone or sent from e-mail.

Sincerely,

Jeff Shook
President

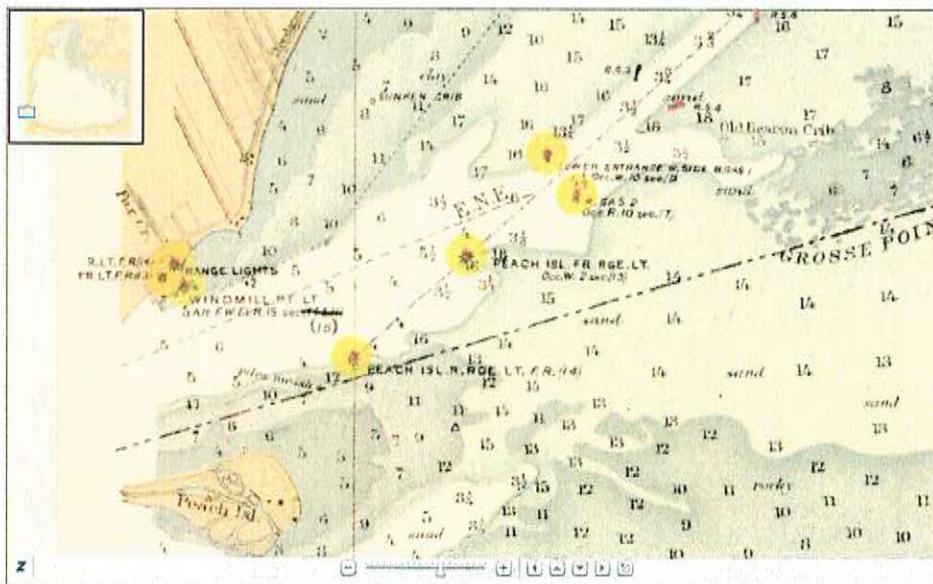
Enclosures: Figures below attached to this document.



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Image: LS42-09-1908
Title: LAKE SAINT CLAIR
Type: Nautical Chart

Figure-1 The 1908 nautical chart.



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Image: LS42-09-1919
Title: LAKE SAINT CLAIR
Type: Nautical Chart

Figure-2 The 1919 nautical chart



Michigan
Lighthouse
Conservancy
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(810) 750-9236

Chart: 14850 Edition: 54 Edition Date: February 2011 Clear Dates: NM - 6/15/2013 LNM - 6/4/2013

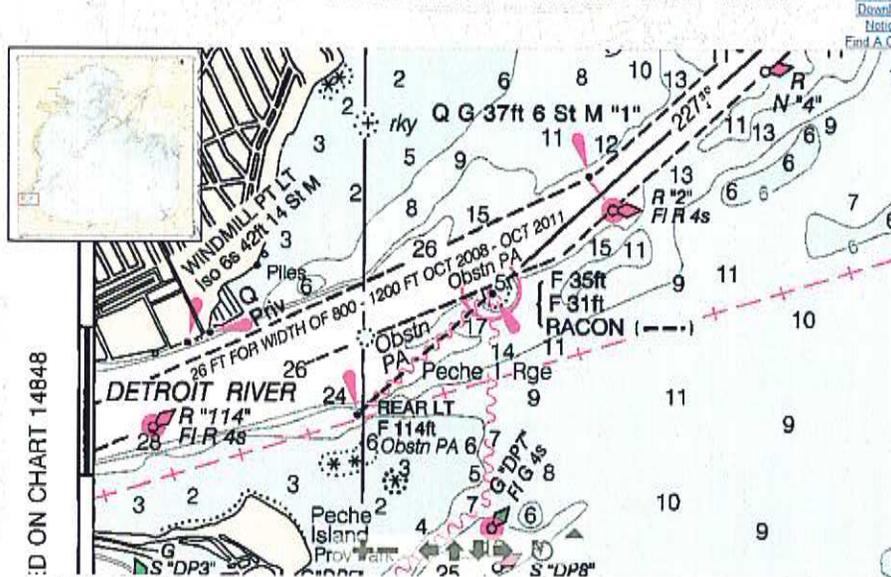


Figure-3 The 2013 nautical chart

DETROIT RIVER AND LAKE ST. CLAIR				MICHIGAN			
No.	Name	Location	Light	Character	Light	Structure, color or form	Established
	Character and period of light	Latitude, N.	Longitude, W.	Above L.S. water	Intensity Intensity	Top of lantern above ground	Height
DETROIT RIVER							
458	ROUGE RIVER CANAL INNER ENTRANCE. F. W.	On inner entrance crib, southerly side of channel.		30	100 Ll cl	Top Black steel mast.	1924
459	GRANDY ISLAND FRONT. F. R.	On north end of flats, north end island.	42 14 83 08	30	750 Rf c	Straw color square tower on dwelling.	1897
460	GRANDY ISLAND REAR. F. R.	600 yards 207° from preceding.		50	1,800 Rf pg m	Red daymark on black square pyramidal skeleton tower.	1897 1917
461	Belle Isle. F. R.	On southeast point of Belle Isle.	42 20 82 58	42 10	3,100 4 cl	Red square brick tower, dwelling situated.	1882
461.2	WILLIAM LIVINGSTONE MEMORIAL. Occ. W., 5 sec.	On easterly end of Belle Isle.		58 13	11,000 el	Light 4 sec., eclipse 1 sec.	White pyramidal monumental structure. 1920
461.3	Peche Island Gas Buoy 8. Fl. R., 5 sec.	In 30 feet.		12	20 200 mm a	Flash 0.3 sec.	Red.
462	Belle Isle East End Gas Buoy. Occ. W., 10 sec.	In 28 feet, at junction of channels above Belle Isle.		13	120 200 mm pgm	Light 5 sec., eclipse 3 sec.	Red and black horizontal bands, spar shaped.
463	PEACHE ISLAND. Fl. R., 5 sec.	In 28 feet.		32 9	65 200 mm a	Flash 0.5 sec.	Red skeleton tower and tank house on concrete base. 1929
465	WATERWORKS INTAKE CHIM. 3 flashes.	In 20 feet, at head of Belle Isle.		40	70 200 mm a	Flash 0.7 sec., eclipse 3.6 sec., flash 0.7 sec., eclipse 10 sec.	Maintained by the city of Detroit. Gray stone tower on pier. 1913
466	Belle Isle North Channel Gas Buoy 5. Fl. W., 3 sec.	In 22 feet, marks entrance to channel.		8	80 150 mm a	Flash 0.3 sec.	Black.
469	Windmill Point. Op. Fl. W., 10 sec. 3 flashes.	On point, north shore.	42 22 82 50	53 14	12,000 4 cl	3 flashes 1 sec., each, 2 eclipses 1 sec., each, 1 eclipse 5 sec.	White conical tower.
470	Vincennes Gas Buoy 1. Fl. W., 1 sec.	In 6 feet, at outer end of dredged channel.		6 4	30 150 mm a	Flash 0.2 sec.	Maintained by J. G. Vincent from Apr. 1 to Nov. 1. Black.
LAKE ST. CLAIR							
471	Peache Island Front. Occ. W., 2 sec.	In 20 feet, southwest end of lake.	42 22 82 54	38 13	500 375 mm a	Light 1 sec., eclipse 1 sec.	Black pyramidal tower, upstream face white, rectangular pier. 1908 1927
472	PEACHE ISLAND REAR. F. R.	1,180 yards 227° 43' from preceding.		66 16	14,000 4 lg a		Black conical tower, square pier. 1908 1926
473	Lake St. Clair Gas Buoy 1. Fl. W., 2 sec.	In 20 feet.		10 9	70 200 mm a	Flash 0.3 sec.	Black.

Figure-4 The 1931 Great Lakes Light List



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Lighthouse
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St. Clair Lake 20 Ft. Channel Light | H | MI

Lake State

Year Station Established:	1898	Year Station Discontinued:	
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Also known as: Asle Aux Peches Light

Rebuilt:

Auto:

Keepers and Assistants:

Position	Last Name	First Name	I	Born	Died	Start			End			Comment
						D	M	Year	D	M	Year	
Kpr.	Kerby	John	F.			9	6	1898				1912 End Date unsure
1st Asst	Schweikart	William				9	6	1898	31	10	1904	Rsgd.
Act 1st Asst	Fisher	William	C.			1	11	1904	18	6	1908	Rsgd.
Act 1st Asst	Kerby	Albert	E.			10	6	1908	15	7	1908	Rsgd.
1st Asst	Gales	Edward	B.			16	7	1908	31	7	1910	Trafd.
1st Asst	Schinderette	George	M	1868	1902	1	8	1910	15	1	1911	Trafd.
1st Asst	Gill	William	H.			15	1	1911	24	9	1914	Trafd. Prmtd.

Figure-5 A partial listing of Light Keepers on payroll record for the Peche Island Range Lights



Figure-6 The leaning Peche Island Rear Range Light prior to removal to marine City.

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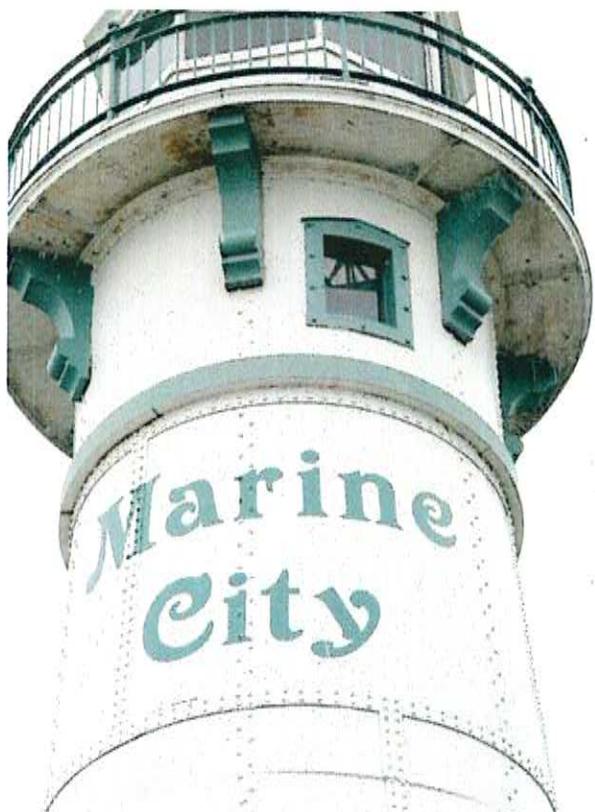
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Marine City's Peche Lighthouse grant denied, rehab still planned

Published: Monday, June 10, 2013



By Jeri Packer
Staff Writer



The Peche Lighthouse, set in a Marine City park, is in need of repairs. (Photo by JERI PACKER)

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After being denied for a state grant that could have helped renovate much of the Peche Lighthouse, Marine City Manager John Gabor said the city is still

going to move forward with the lighthouse rehabilitation.

Gabor informed the Marine City Commission of the grant denial at the June 6 meeting.

Commissioner Lisa Hendricks questioned whether the work could be put off since the grant was denied.

"If it wasn't done this year, would it be critical?" she asked. "My only concern is we're laying off a guy and spending money on that."

Gabor explained the historic structure is in pretty bad shape.

"There's some stuff up at the top that is rotting out pretty badly," he said.

He also explained the monies would not come from the city's general fund, but from a special fund from the Marine City Parks and Recreation Department.

"We have some money put away for what was going to be for the match," he told. "We're going to get the exterior completely rehabbed with the money we have set aside for it, and then we'll take on the interior maybe next year."

The city had applied for a highly competitive funding source, the 2013 Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program Grant. According to the State Historic Preservation Office, they received and reviewed nine applications requesting over \$300,000 in assistance.

The lighthouse was originally built in 1908 off Peche Island, Ontario, at the head of the Detroit River, and moved to Marine City. The move is part of the reason the grant was not approved. State Historic Preservation Officer Brian Conway explained in a letter why the landmark, located in the Marine City's Lighthouse Park, is out of the running.

A big strike against the approval is that the landmark was not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. There are two reasons why: First, it was moved from its original setting in the early 1980s.

"It has lost its integrity of location by being relocated from its historic site and is no longer part of a range light system," wrote Conway.

Next, the construction of the lighthouse was done by Canadians.

"Although an important artifact of marine heritage and transportation history from the area, it was built by the Canadians and does not fit into the broad context of U.S. lighthouses on the Great Lakes," stated Conway.

Gabor said that was the only source of funding city officials could find at this time.

"They said it's of no historical value, but we're glad you're keeping it up," he told the commission.

He said if they were approved for the grant, they would have been able to renovate the total exterior and either sandblast or clean up the interior and paint it.

Gabor said tourists would be able to at least look up to see the top of the lighthouse, but they may not be able to climb the stairs to the top.

"It's very difficult to walk up there, especially when you get to the top," he said. "Once you get up there, there are several pieces of radio equipment up there. You really can't walk around up there."

The lighthouse may have been moved and built by foreigners, but it is still considered a tourist attraction. The Pure Michigan campaign at michigan.org includes the Peche Lighthouse in its Lighthouse tour recommendations.

Contact Jeri Packer at (586) 716-8100, ext 302; jeri.packer@voicenews.com or on Twitter @JeriPacker.

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