

LAND PRESERVATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 18, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.

Room 118, Ozaukee County Administration Center, Port Washington

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Rothstein called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Land Preservation Board members present were: Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Rothstein, Supervisor Bill Niehaus, Frank Madden, Kine Torinus, Jim Melichar, Mike Paulus, Alternate Paul Hayes and Alternate Marjie Tomter. Members excused included Chairperson Tim Kaul. Staff present included: Land and Water Management Department Director Andy Holschbach, County Administrator Tom Meaux, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent Dan O'Neil, UW-Extension Community Resource Development Educator Nicole Sidoff, Planning and Parks Department Director Andrew Struck, Transit Superintendent Jason Wittek, and Planning and Parks Department Intern Laura Catherman. Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWPRC) staff present included Principal Planner Dave Schilling.

Mike Paulus joined the meeting at 9:05 am.

2. LAND PRESERVATION BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Rothstein introduced new board member Kine Torinus with the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Ozaukee County Transit Superintendent Jason Wittek, and Planning and Parks Department Intern Laura Catherman.

Jim Melichar joined the meeting at 9:10 am.

3. ASSURANCE THAT THE MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED

Vice-Chairperson Jennifer Rothstein asked staff if the meeting had been properly noticed and the agenda had been posted. Nicole Sidoff noted that the meeting was properly noticed and the agenda posted.

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Supervisor Niehaus and seconded by Frank Madden to adopt the agenda as printed. All members present voting aye, motion carried unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (APRIL 16, 2010)

Motion by Supervisor Niehaus and seconded by Frank Madden to approve the minutes for the April 16, 2010 meeting of the Land Preservation Board. All members present voting aye, motion carried unanimously.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments or written communications.

7. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CHAPTERS 1 AND 2 OF THE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR OZAUKEE COUNTY

Andrew Struck opened the floor to comments on draft Chapters 1 and 2 of the Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County. Dave Schilling gave an overview of Chapter 1 and explained that this chapter includes an introduction, a history of Ozaukee County's Park and Open Space Plan, and information on how and when the Plan has been amended over the years. The new Plan is intended to maintain the County's eligibility for stewardship grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Mr. Schilling explained that the DNR has guidelines on what is to be included in the Park and Open Space Plan and that these guidelines have been followed. It was also noted that a footnote listing all seven counties in the Southeastern Wisconsin Region will be added to page 1.

Chapter 2 is an inventory of findings and covers demographic and economic characteristics of the County, historic urban growth, natural resources and several other topics. Kine Torinus noted that there is an absence of agricultural language in the second paragraph on page 3. Mr. Schilling stated that this was intentional because that paragraph is meant to be general. There is more detail on agriculture later in the document.

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Mr. Schilling confirmed with Mr. Struck that Belgium Creek is the correct name. Andy Holschbach inquired why the term "Sheboygan watershed" was used. Mr. Struck explained that the WDNR and SEWRPC use different nomenclatures for watersheds and that the County Comprehensive Plan used both nomenclatures on the same map for comparison. He suggested including the Comprehensive Plan watershed map with a footnote about nomenclatures in the Park and Open Space Plan. Ms. Torinus inquired about the definition of major streams in paragraph 3 on page 5 and asked if impervious area and new development had been considered. Mr. Struck stated that the information is based on United States Geological Survey (USGS) maps, but could be further defined.

Vice-Chairperson Rothstein asked if the Surface Water Resources section should be expanded to include information on drinking water quality and potable water sources. Mr. Struck stated that the only surface water drinking source right now is Lake Michigan, and it is only used for drinking water in the City of Port Washington and a portion of the City of Mequon and Village of Thiensville. That information can be added to the Plan. Mr. Schilling proposed to add the sentence, "In addition, the entire County is bounded on the east by Lake Michigan with 25 miles of shoreline." Also, it was noted that there was a typo in the second paragraph on page 6. The "1" after Map II-4 should read as a footnote and it will be changed.

Paul Hayes asked to change the wording in the Stream Passage Impediments section to read, "Dams should be considered on a case by case basis." Mr. Struck stated that this chapter is meant to serve as an inventory. Frank Madden proposed using the word "change" instead of "improve" in the last sentence of paragraph one on page 6. Mr. Struck stated that "improve" came from the diversity study and that it can be altered to read "change to increase diversity." Mr. Schilling asked if the Floodlands section should be changed to Floodplains. Mr. Struck and Mr. Holschbach agreed that the term floodplains is more commonly used.

Mr. Schilling explained that the term "farmed wetlands" in the last paragraph on page 8 encompasses only areas that are tilled. Ozaukee County has 220 acres of farmed wetlands. The Critical Species Habitat section is meant to be inclusive of all species. Therefore, the two critical species noted in the Comprehensive Plan (e.g. Bulter's Garder snake and Hine's Emerald Dragonfly) are accounted for, but not called out separately.

Mr. Holschbach recommended that a paragraph on the Lake Michigan shoreline be added to the Scenic Views section. Mr. Struck stated that an entire, separate section on Lake Michigan could be added. Vice-Chairperson Rothstein asked if the Board had reached a consensus on the first two chapters of the Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County. All members present agreed. Mr. Struck stated that the edits will be reflected in a track change version. The track change version will be presented to the Comprehensive Planning Board.

Ms. Torinus inquired about the definitions of "view" and "overlook" in the first paragraph on page 11. Mr. Schilling stated that all of the scenic view areas noted are overlooks. Mr. Struck explained that it is hard to define "scenic view." Marjie Tomter recommended taking out "view" and using "scenic overlook." Mr. Schilling agreed and will add a sentence at the end of the paragraph explaining that many views in the County have scenic values that are not necessarily overlooks. If Land Preservation Board members want any specific locations mentioned, they should email Dave Schilling, Andrew Struck or Nicole Sidoff with those locations.

Paul Hayes praised SEWRPC for their work in implementing environmental corridors in Wisconsin. He stated that the importance of environmental corridors and their preservation cannot be underestimated.

Mr. Struck asked if a formal motion could be made to make the changes discussed and present the edited version with track changes to the Comprehensive Planning Board for review and approval. Vice-Chairperson Rothstein asked for a motion to accept Chapters 1 and 2 with the aforementioned edits.

Motion by Kine Torinus and seconded by Frank Madden to approve Chapters 1 and 2 of the Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County with the recommended changes discussed and recommend approval of the edited version with track changes of Chapters 1 and 2 of the Park and Open Space Plan for Ozaukee County to the Comprehensive Planning Board.

Mr. Hayes stated that he was not satisfied with the Dam Impediments section unless suggested edits were taken into account. Mr. Schilling stated that language can be added to Chapter 2 and implications can be added to the Plan chapter that identifies goals, objectives, policies, and programs. Mr. Struck confirmed and noted that the suggested edits will be addressed in Chapter 2 as it pertains to the inventory.

All members present voting aye, motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairperson Rothstein announced a recess at 10:20 am.

Administrator Tom Meaux left the meeting at 10:20 am.

Dave Schilling left the meeting at 10:30 am.

Vice-Chairperson Rothstein announced the recess was over at 10:38 am.

8. CONDUCT A STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS (SWOT) ANALYSIS OF OZAUKEE COUNTY PARKS, NATURAL AREAS, RECREATIONAL RESOURCES, AND OPEN SPACES WITH THE LAND PRESERVATION BOARD

Nicole Sidoff led the Land Preservation Board members through a SWOT Analysis of Ozaukee County Parks, Natural Areas, Recreational Resources and Open Spaces. The results will be included as part of the Park and Open Space Plan.

Jim Melichar left the meeting at 11:40 am.

9. UPDATE ON THE OZAUKEE COUNTY LAND PRESERVATION TRUST FUND

Mr. Struck explained that Resolution No. 10-8, Establishment of an Ozaukee County Land Preservation Fund passed at the County Board and will allow for donations to be accepted for land preservation efforts. One donation has been received.

10. UPDATE ON COUNTY PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS TOUR

Mr. Struck stated that the tour group saw a number of parks and natural areas in the County. The members noted that the tour was very worthwhile and helpful to their understanding of the Park and Open Space Plan. Another tour trip was offered to the Comprehensive Planning Board, so Land Preservation Board members who missed the first tour may have an opportunity to join the next tour.

11. UPDATE ON PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN VISIONING SESSIONS AND OZAUKEE INTERURBAN TRAIL ADVISORY COUNCIL (OITAC) STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND THREATS (SWOT) WORKSHOP

Ms. Sidoff explained that a Kickoff Meeting was held at the end of March. Three Visioning Sessions were also held: the first one at Mee-Kwon Park Golf Course Club House on April 19, 2010, the second at Hawthorne Hills Golf Course Club House on April 26, 2010, and the last at Ozaukee County Administration Center on April 27, 2010. All ideas gathered at the Visioning Sessions will be included as public comments in the POSP. Additionally, comments collected during the Ozaukee Interurban Trail Advisory Council Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis, held May 4, 2010 at H.H. Peters Youth Camp, will also be included in the POSP. Staff will be accepting public comments through the planning process. If anyone has a comment, it can be sent to Nicole or Andrew via email, mail or phone.

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12. UPDATE ON PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY FOR THE POSP AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN (FPP)

Mr. Struck stated that the County entered into a contract with UW-River Falls Survey Research Center to conduct the survey. Staff has attended a meeting with SEWRPC to discuss the length of the survey and to develop questions. The survey will be mailed to a statistically significant sample of the County population. The recipients will have an option of completing the survey online with a password instead of mailing the survey. The goal is to have a draft of the questions at the next meeting. Ms. Sidoff mentioned that staff will also be conducting in-person surveys at the various County Parks to target a younger demographic and get additional information and input on the POSP. These results will not be part of the statistically significant sample, but will be taken into consideration in the recommendations of the POSP.

13. UPDATE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN

Mr. Struck explained that the Citizen Advisory Committee will be comprised of 1 appointed member from each community and 15 at-large citizen appointees. The press release will hopefully go out today. Applicants will be required to submit a resume and complete the online form.

14. UPDATE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS REGARDING FARMLAND PRESERVATION AND THE WORKING LANDS INITIATIVE

Mr. Struck stated that staff has met with almost all the towns and the City of Mequon, and is working on planning a meeting with the Town of Cedarburg.

15. UPDATE ON BEEKEEPER BOG

Vice-Chairperson Rothstein explained that the Milwaukee Audubon Society offered to purchase the property for \$275,000. There is \$35,000 worth of gravel on the site, which is buried by \$100,000 worth of sand. A caveat to the offer was that the County cannot further extract materials from the site including the sand. The Public Works Committee voted 5-0 to reject the offer. Vice-Chairperson Rothstein, Supervisor Bill Niehaus and Chairman Tim Kaul proposed a resolution that the site be sold at public sale. The motion to approve the resolution was defeated at the County Board on a vote of 12-18.

Dan O'Neil left the meeting at 12:10 pm.

16. NEXT MEETING DATE(S) – THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2010

Vice-Chairperson Rothstein indicated that the next meeting date will be Thursday, August 5, 2010.

17. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Frank Madden and seconded by Supervisor Niehaus to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting aye, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Andrew Struck, Nicole Sidoff and Laura Catherman.