

WASHINGTON COUNTY
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING
AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT WORK GROUP
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 5, 2005

The meeting was called to order by John at 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Rooms 1020/1026. Those present included:

Work Group Members Present:

Marilyn John, Chairperson..... Town of Trenton
David Baldus, Vice-Chairperson Town of Polk Citizen
Mary Krumbiegel..... Washington County Board Supervisor
Robert Bingen Town of Addison
Joe Peters Town of Barton
Helmut Wagner..... Town of Erin
Ike Roell..... Town of Farmington
Sue Yogerst..... Town of Hartford
Harold Groth..... Town of Polk
Kieth Kriewaldt (Alternate) Town of Wayne
Andy Pesch Village of Kewaskum
Jeff Truman..... Town of Erin Citizen
Roger Walsh..... Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District
Mark Baran USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services
Ross Bishop Agribusiness Cluster Council
Sue Millin Land Conservation Partnership
Kevin Dittmar Metropolitan Builders Association
Norbert Dettmann Landmarks Committee

Excused:

Rod Bartlow Ice Age Trail Foundation
Chris Borchert..... Washington County Historical Society

Absent:

Jon Etta Town of Wayne
Michael Heili Village of Newburg
Dale Dhein Town of Germantown
Ellis Kahn Town of Kewaskum
Bette Voeks..... Town of Farmington Citizen

Staff:

Peter Wagner..... Planner
Washington County Planning and Parks Department

Kevin Struck Growth Management Educator
University of Wisconsin Extension

Kelly Hahm..... Administrative Secretary
Washington County Planning and Parks Department

Other Attendees

Dave Johnson Multi-Jurisdictional Comprehensive Planning Advisory
Committee Member
Alan Linnebur UW-Extension

FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS: Call Meeting to Order/Review Agenda

John called meeting to order and briefly reviewed agenda items.

SECOND ORDER OF BUSINESS: Approval of Minutes from September 7, 2005

Motion by Baldus, seconded by Pesch to approve the minutes from September 7, 2005. Motion carried unanimously.

THIRD ORDER OF BUSINESS: Discussion of Liability and Ethics Code

Wagner stated the explanation from the County Attorney regarding liability for serving on a work group. Wagner explained that a copy of the ethics code was given to each work group member to inform them of the expected conduct regarding County business and that each work group member review the code on their own. (See Attached).

FOURTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Updated Tentative Agendas

Wagner reviewed the updated tentative agenda handout. (See Attached).

FIFTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Review Sample Questionnaires

Wagner briefly highlighted items in the sample surveys. (See Attached).

SIXTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Update of Countywide Survey

Wagner explained that the office received one proposal for the survey. Wagner added that the proposal will be reviewed tomorrow by staff and with one local representative from each municipality. Dittmar requested that the question be asked what the definition of statistically justifiable means.

SEVENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Brainstorming Session for Survey Questions and Issues

Struck began brainstorming sessions and requested work group members to state issues related to Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources.

ISSUES

1. Loss of farmland
2. Surface/groundwater quality (urban and rural impacts)
3. Preservation of open space/natural habitat
4. Price of land too high
5. Preservation of environmental areas
6. Filling in of wetland areas which creates loss of water recharge area and creates flooding
7. Funding of preservation of farmland and natural areas (taxpayer money?)
8. Right-to-farm agricultural land (Re: urban vs. rural residents)
9. Continued attention to historical landmarks
10. Loss of farm infrastructure – locally
11. Rate of development – too rapid
12. Allocation of limited public funds
13. Need to identify areas of important farmlands (open space, groundwater recharge areas for conservation preservation)
14. Lack of knowing where potential sand and gravel deposits are and preserving them
15. Proper siting of wind, solar, etc. facilities
16. Individual property rights
17. Reconciling the market with the public good

18. Control of stormwater runoff into surface waters caused by development of open lands
19. Mapping aquifers, recharge areas, wetlands and giving them a high priority
20. Not understanding the interconnectedness of natural resources
21. Density and lot sizes
22. Lack of consistent zoning/land use between communities
23. State enforcement of farmland preservation program
24. Master site grading
25. Is clustering being used effectively (farmable)
26. Equal access to public natural and cultural locations within the county (e.g. public boat landings)
27. Increasing numbers of large and small farms – and fewer medium sized farms
28. Overuse of road salt near surface waters
29. Balance of recreational activities
30. Lack of enforcement of existing policies at all levels of government

Questions:

- #36 on pg. 110 of Walworth County – several issues
- #6 on pg. 5 – Wayne – several issues
(includes sand & gravel as item) (solar, wind) (cultural)
- In what ways would you control the growth rate? Issue #11
- 33 on pag. 4 – Wayne – Issue #7
- Should counties and/or local governments enact strict legislation to clean up stormwater runoff.
Issue #18
- Based on your personal observations, do you feel our current stormwater regs are adequately protecting our lakes and rivers? – Issue #18
- Is it possible to have coexisting uses of farming and residential? – Issue # 8
- Who would prevail if a conflict arises?
- Would like to see at least 1 question for Agricultural, Natural Resources, and Cultural Resources.

Walsh suggested that 1 question from each element should be asked on the survey. Not all of the same element.

EIGHTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Public Comment

No comments given.

NINTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Discussion Regarding Upcoming Meetings

John stated the next meeting is November 2, 2005

TENTH ORDER OF BUSINESS: Adjournment

Motion by Dettmann, seconded by Wagner to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn John, Chairperson

Approved by _____
Marilyn John, Chairperson

Date _____