

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Conference Rooms 1&2, County Annex
Stevens Point, WI 54481
August 23, 2016

Members present: Roger Bacon, Bob Gifford, Charles Gussel, Barry Jacowski, Matt Jacowski, Larry Raikowski, Jerry Walters, Gerry Zastrow

Members excused: Marion "Bud" Flood, Julie Morrow, Dale O'Brien

Others present: Nathan Sandwick and Ken Schroeder, UW-Extension; Jeff Schuler, Steve Bradley and Patty Benedict, Planning and Zoning Department.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Planning and Zoning Committee Chair B. Jacowski.

B. Jacowski read the Public Notice statement: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order. No one registered to speak.

2. Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of the Minutes of the July 26, 2016 Joint Meeting of the Agriculture and Extension Education (Ag/Ext Ed), Land and Water Conservation (LWCC), and Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committees

Motion by M. Jacowski, second by Bacon to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Discussion – Pages 52-74 Preliminary Draft of the Farmland Preservation Plan (FPP)

Schuler stated page 52 is new and has been reviewed by Sara Brish, Stevens Point Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau (SPACVB) Executive Director. Schuler also received an email from Chris Holman, Farmland Preservation Ad Hoc Steering Committee member. Holman is happy with the section on Agricultural Tourism and feels it is important to make sure there is a lot of flexibility. Based on Holman's input, Schuler suggested adding a second sentence to number three in Significant Trends in Agri-Tourism to read, "County rules and regulations regarding land use and zoning must be flexible and nimble to understand and allow for agri-tourism opportunities where appropriate. Broad creativity for agri-tourism should be encouraged, while rules and regulations should be simple, straightforward, and kept to a minimum." There was consensus to add the second sentence.

Schuler's memo explained several changes made. On page 66, text was added. After staff discussions, it was decided to include a summary of examples in the first paragraph, Strategies to Increase Housing Density Away From Farmland. The second heading, Land Use Policies to Preserve Farmland, refers to information in the next section. This information is required in State Statutes.

In regard to a question regarding the Land Legacy Fund, Schuler said it is no longer listed on the Community Foundation website, and it was deleted. The bullet point (Pursue full implementation of water resource protection programs and regulations) was deleted as suggested.

On page 59, the economic development bullets were copied to the suggested section and also left with the original language from the Comprehensive Plan. On page 64, the Need for Water section was bolded and

italics inserted as suggested. In regard to the question relating to the use of availability versus productivity, availability was the preferred word and changes were made.

Benedict said that John Jazdzewski, an Ad Hoc Steering Committee member, called earlier and suggested the document be proofread carefully. Schuler said the document is not in its final form, and can still be edited.

Schuler said the plan is to have the Planning and Zoning and Land and Water Conservation Committee meetings followed by an open house on the same night. B. Jacowski said he does not feel the public will have issues with the document. It is a broad document and the Farmland Preservation Ad Hoc Steering Committee welcomed anyone having interest throughout the planning process.

Schuler envisions an open house for the public to view exhibits, followed by a public hearing for questions and testimony. M. and B. Jacowski suggested promoting this open house differently than the open house held at the Sentry Theatre in January. Following that open house they were contacted by several constituents and town board officials, stating they attended expecting to learn about farmland preservation, but listened to personal political agendas.

Bacon asked how involved the towns have been. B. Jacowski replied towns have received notification of all meetings and draft copies of all materials. Schuler stated towns' biggest involvement is applying the zoning. B. Jacowski said the preliminary map was made as flexible as possible.

4. Discussion/Possible Action – Recommendation of the Farmland Preservation Draft for Public Comment
Motion by M. Jacowski, second by Walters to send the Farmland Preservation Draft for Public Comment on September 29. Motion carried by voice vote.

5. Next Meeting Date(s)

The next meeting will be September 29 with the following tentative schedule: Planning and Zoning Committee will meet from 5:00 to approximately 5:30, Land and Water Conservation Committee immediately following P&Z until approximately 6:00, followed by a half hour open house, then the public hearing. Towns will be notified of the open house and public hearing.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Bacon, second by Gussel to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Benedict, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved at September 29, 2016 joint Agriculture and Extension Education, Land and Water Conservation, and Planning and Zoning Committees meeting.

Barry Jacowski, Planning and Zoning Committee Chair