

MINUTES

LAKES TO LAND REGIONAL INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 9, 2014 1:30 P.M.

PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Present: Brad Hopwood (Arcadia); Connie Barnes (Gilmore); Ted Wood (Joyfield); Bruce Wildie (Honor); Al Taylor (Onokama); Charles Beale (Blaine); Bob Delanoy (Gilmore); Bruce Ogilvie (Frankfort), Tamara Buswinka (B&R); John Iacoangeli (B&R); Tim Ervin (AES);

Guests: Susan Zenker and Peg Minster (Benzie County Planning Commission); Kurt Schindler (MSUE)

Agenda

Discussion: Need for Press Release?

Emphasize bottom up process in your township meetings. The requirement of a Resolution from Funders was a challenge. Finding the right partners at the local level may not all be government; that is why it was suggested to have a private citizen and a Planning Commissioner. The MP is not the most valuable thing that has come from this: building relationships has been the biggest value. The network is being built at the citizen level up (Hopwood)

Tamara Buswinka and Sharron May will work on an article.

If we did not have B&R we would have lost consistency and expertise. (Taylor)

Are we being too thin-skinned? Nothing shows like results. Then we'll have credibility. (Delanoy)

Focus: Public Hearing/ Master Plan completion

- Arcadia is working through comments, waiting for Public Hearing
- Joyfield is reviewing comments and contemplating changes.
- Honor is still trying to put together a Public Hearing and butting heads with the Village Council. The ZA wants to back up and have a joint meeting to discuss the Master Plan.
- Frankfort is redrafting their Zoning Ordinance and created a Master Plan review committee. Bruce Ogilvie is no longer chair of the Planning Commission but a citizen representative.
- Onokama is working with the disbanded joint PC and has formed a committee with 3 from each PC. They are due for a review in 1.5 years. A survey is going out in the summer tax bills. The township budgeted money for B&R's help so that it has consistency and continuity with the other communities. The Township ZO was redone and the village is in the process.

- Crystal Lake Township has reviewed agency comments, is starting on the public comments and hoping to have the Public Hearing in May.
- Blaine has reviewed comments and is ready to put into print and get ready for the Public Hearing
- Gilmore has met 2 times to address the comments. The people from outside of the township may not reflect the sentiments of the people within the township. All will be noted, some will be implemented and some won't. Not having the capacity to modify the PDF is a problem. John I. suggested using PDF Writer. Some of the photos need to change. Bob found PDF Suite that changed the color where they changed the wording but it can't be emailed.
- Brad Hopwood cut and pasted all the comments into a document without indicating who they were from.
- Request for a State of the Township report from Township Supervisor included with tax bills.
- John I. reported that Bear Lake Village and Township plans are out for their 63-day review. They have caught up quickly.
- Send your Public Hearing date to Leah ASAP.
- For a tab or glossary of definitions, circle the words you want defined.
- 3.18 Collective Priority table: include Onkama, Manistee, Frankfort, Elberta and any other communities with existing Master Plans - these will be implemented

Focus: Food Hub and Zoning Language Grant Update

Tim Ervin will send out the scope of work

Betsy is taking the lead in the Food Innovation District inventorying everything that exists: land, production, markets, roadside stands. She is forming a coordinating body to look at what exists within the region and a lot of discussions about needs, issues and priorities. The first stage is inventory, definition of priorities. Sarah Lucas will be a point person from the north. Budgeting remaining dollars to begin to address implementation including leveraging those dollars for more money where it's needed.

Zoning Language: John I. had a meeting where they came up with a few names for forming a core team. Standardized language for riparian areas and let the committee and PC define the broader template.

M-22 Update

The M-22 group met with MDOT and went over the program. It's not difficult to initiate or a lot of work. It needs a sponsor, 1 or no more than 2, such as GTRLC, AES for a communication point. AES is willing. Long term, there needs to be a management group, but it is not a regulatory group. There would be some cost for signage ("Scenic Highway" or "Pure Michigan Byway"). Need buy-in from communities. The Visitor's Bureau was asked to provide economic impact data. It would be put on all of MDOT's maps as a Scenic Highway. John I. will send an M-22 Economic Development report to Al Taylor.

Organizational Structure Update

Last month there was a meeting with a group interested in creating a backbone organization to support L2L. Ervin is trying to find the funding to seed it.

Collective Priorities strategy

There will be meeting with department heads in Lansing for state resource providers to be briefed on L2L and how they can be responsive to the individual and collective priorities. Ervin is figuring out how to structure the meeting so we get the biggest bang for the buck. AES recently helped Arcadia and Onkama with some land trust programs. Points are being assigned for collaboration. Funding only addresses part of it. The other thing is having private foundations involved.

Next Steps: County participation/Facilitation

- Have a joint Manistee/Benzie meeting to bring the counties up to speed. Tamara and Bruce will organize the meeting
- Have 1-2 county reps start attending meetings as we work on collective priorities and form committees

Announcements:

- **Placemaking For An Aging Society:** April 22 6-9pm \$55 by NWMCOG
- **DNR/Army COE/Water Quality Public Hearing Thurs. April 17** Water Resource Management for the east side of Betsie Bay at the Government Center.
- **June 2, 2014 10 am meeting at Portage Point with DEQ/DNR** – Meeting about Langley Point (Turnaround) to improve visual access to the water. Ervin recommended concepts on mitigation.
- **Open Meeting Act Training 1:30 p.m. on May 15 at the Benzie County Government Center**
- **Kurt Schindler: Agenda 21.** Leelanau County organized an educational event with Dr. Richard Norton. It was a great success. The goal was not to change anyone's mind but to educate Planning Commissioners on identifying fact from supposition. Hopwood said that the YouTube video is available at NWMCOG website and has good talking points. <http://www.nwm.org/main-site/media/view-video.html/116/>
- **Onkama is having 2 Special Meetings about Special Assessment District requirements for their watershed in April & May.**
- **Benzie County Water Festival is April 25 from 12-6 @ Platte Valley Elementary and 6-9PM @ The Garden Theatre.** Go to <http://water-festival.org/> for details.