

DRAFT

Sauk County Comprehensive Plan
Steering Committee Meeting Notes
October 22, 2008

Committee Members Present: Blakeslee, Borleske, Dalhoff, Davis, Gerdman, Godfriaux-Leystra, Green, Iausly, Jones, Knight, Murray. Mark Steward mentioned that only five of the members not in attendance had contacted him in advance. These were Ken Carlson, Marcus Wenzel, Linda White, Nick Ladas and Gene Robkin.

Others Present: Mark Steward, Dave Tremble, Brian Simmert, and Birte Pforr, Sauk County Dept. of Planning and Zoning, Jenny Erickson, Sauk County UW Extension, Marty Krueger, Sauk County Board of Supervisors, and Mike Clark, Town of Excelsior Comprehensive Planning Committee.

Mark Steward, Planning and Zoning Director, called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm, and asked members to review the agenda. Murray moved to adopt the agenda as written, second by Davis. **Motion Carried.**

Steward asked members to review the minutes from the September meeting. Members approved the minutes by consensus.

Public Comment

None.

Steward thanked the Town of Excelsior for letting us use their town hall.

Jenny Erickson mentioned that she had assigned this year's Sauk County Institute of Leadership class to investigate energy-related issues this year, and to identify issues and potential strategies that could be included in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Overview of the Planning Process

Mark Steward introduced Birte Pforr, Sauk County Dept. of Planning and Zoning paid intern. Birte comes to us from Germany, and will be on the P&Z staff for three months.

Mark announced that Kari Olsen had resigned from the Steering Committee. It is possible that she might agree to a place on the Technical Advisory and Review Team (TART).

Mark revisited some of the adopted Ground Rules, and stressed the need to manage the time of the meeting carefully. Carolyn Davis suggested that more formal facilitation might be needed as the process goes forward.

Workshop Preparation

The Committee began discussion of preparations for the November 5th Issues Workshop. Staff distributed posters and postcards and recommended that Committee members distribute these items in their respective communities to advertise the November 5th Issues Workshop.

DRAFT

A draft Workshop agenda was distributed, along with a draft facilitators guide, the original issues worksheet, draft issue responses submitted by the issue workgroups, with outlines, paragraphs and key questions, and a table showing all the identified issues.

Members broke out into Issue Workgroups, identified facilitators and record keepers for the November 5th event, and then engaged in a practice discussion of the issues as presented on the facilitators guide and Issue Analysis sheets. Members discussed and refined issues, related facts, and key questions.

Break

Process Review and Comments on Workshop

After a short break, members reconvened as a whole and reviewed the process. Ben Jones, reporting for the Economy group, declared that Brian Simmert is awesome. The Economy group also discussed Poverty, and Energy as subtopics related to the economy issue.

Janine Godfriaux-Leystra reported for the Transportation group. They have three basic issues to balance.

Fred Iausly reported for the Government workgroup. Carolyn Davis reported for the Quality of Life group, and Peter Murray for the Ag and Natural Resources group. Their topics include the economic viability of agriculture, the use of natural resources over the long run, and the preservation of natural resources and agricultural land.

Members then discussed details of the November 5th Workshop itself. Peter Murray asked if the poster would be posted on the website. Jenny Erickson asked members to forward her email message announcing the Workshop to their colleagues.

Mark Steward mentioned that a notice for presentations for a program called “Creating Livable Communities”. Staff will put presentations up on the website.

Public Comment

None

Next Meeting: November 5th, Issues Workshop
November 19th Steering Committee at the Sauk Prairie River Arts Center (location to be confirmed)

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Steward, Director
Sauk County Dept. of Planning and Zoning