

TOWN OF CABLE
Plan Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017
Cable Community Centre
UNAPPROVED

1. Call Meeting to order @ 5:30 p.m.
Meeting was called to order at 5:34. Present were Plan Commission Chairperson Karl Kastrosky, Plan Commissioners Tom Frels, Suzanne Rooney, Shelly Wilson, Paul Gilbert and Art Hancock and Plan Commission Secretary Kristine Lendved. Also present were Susan Thurn, David Popelka, Jack Redecki and Sue M? Absent was Commissioner James Bolen.
2. Approval of meeting minutes from Jan. 4, 2017 meeting.
Commissioner Hancock made motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 4 meeting. Gilbert seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. Town of Cable Board of Supervisors meeting report. (Thurn, January)
Thurn reported that the Blighted Property ordinance had been adopted at the most recent Town of Cable Board of Supervisors meeting and that its passage went smoothly. The proposed ordinance had been publically posted online and on local posting boards and there was no response from the public.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Public Restroom committee progress report (Thurn)
Thurn reported that there is now a signed utility easement which needs only to be recorded with the Register of Deeds. Kastrosky suggested that same should also be attached to UCC's title deed. Thurn went on to explain that when Bolen returns there'll be a public event to mark the land donation. Popelka suggested that this deed transfer should also be recorded right away, in advance of the public event.
 - b. Public Restroom committee fund-raising report (Thurn)
Thurn reported that another \$500 donation towards the facility had been received through Pat & Sue Quinn.

Frels reported that the donation jars are ready to go. Bolen was working on the language that would appear posted on the jars but departed before the project was complete. Wilson stated that she had been advised by Bolen that he had told Deb at Advance Printing that Wilson would be the interim contact person. Frels suggested that the project should move forward as Bolen will not return until 2/10. Wilson inquired if the same photo should be used as on the fund-raising thermometers. Consensus was that it should be the same photo. Wilson stated that she may require assistance in determining the text to use but that she is otherwise willing to take lead on this part of this project. She further inquired about creating posters and if they should include a flap for donation envelopes. Thurn demonstrated how a bottom fold could be created on an 8 ½ x 14 page to hold the envelopes. Commissioners determined that 28-30 each donation jar labels and posters should be printed. Frels told Wilson he'd supply her with a sample jar to take to Advance Printing to determine the correct size for the label.

It was reported that Gary Crandall, Director of the Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival will put in “ad” soliciting donation for the public restroom in an upcoming edition of FAT TRACKS. Crandall and Wilson will work on language for the appeal.

Gilbert reported that Bob Lang had been working on a way to install/display the fund-raising thermometers. Thurn reported that she had asked Lang to take this on as part of his Town responsibilities. Frels reported that thermometers will be located at the Chamber and at the CCC. Lang is currently building the frames which will be 8’ high and will hold the graphic above the snowline. It was reported that they would be up by Friday.

Popelka stated that he would like to have a form letter to give to groups asking the Lion’s Club for the loan of various items owned by them. He feels that these groups could and should support this effort.

c. Dog Park committee report (Byrd)

Frels stated that the Town of Cable wondered if a forester should be paid to determine which trees in the acreage behind the Community Center should be cut. The price of pine is at an all time low. Lang had suggested that Chris Rasmussen review the harvest. The Town will need to open the logging up with bids for the job. It will be important to log the area carefully and correctly so what is left behind is a cleared area, not a huge mess. Hancock stated he thought there was wisdom in having a forester look at the project and it will assure Town citizens that due process took place. He understands that it might cost some money but, feels it would be well-spent. Kastrosky added that while he doesn’t know what a forester would charge to assess the parcel, it wouldn’t make sense for the assessment cost to exceed the value of the harvest.

Thurn reported that Amy Byrd approached the Hendersons about use of the area as a Dog Park and learned that they do not support the property being used in this fashion. The Town can still log the area and create a park if they wish, but, the Dog Park Committee is currently looking at the Cable Rec Park again, considering an area near the tennis courts that may be suitable. Kastrosky acknowledged that going against the family’s wishes was probably not a good thing. While he thinks we should still pursue logging the parcel, he supports finding a new location for the proposed dog park. Hancock expressed a concern about memorial gifts to the Town of Cable. Unless it is written into the gift language that the donor has final say on any project, to assume that they do can make it difficult to proceed with any potential project using the gift in question. Gilbert expressed concern about dogs at the Rec Park on the 4th of July. He further suggested that what the family intentions were for the donation of the Fagg forest land. Frels expressed willingness to speak to Don Henderson about this and find out more about what the family’s intention was. He will also research the original agreement when the land was donated.

d. Depot committee report (Gilbert)

Gilbert, Hancock and Popelka met to discuss the Depot which was moved to the Cable Rec Park in 1985. This committee feels that it would be a disservice to the community to make a hurried decision about the fate of the Depot. It is their hope to come up with a long-term plan. Hancock feels it's an important historic building and should be preserved. It is a busy place in the summer. Long-term, he would hope to see the building returned to the east side of Hwy 63 if an appropriate location can be found. Kastrosky reminded the committee that the Plan Commission was tasked with coming up with a plan for the building by spring. Gilbert stated that their recommendation is to leave it as is for now. The library/Katie Flowers Endowment will be asked to vacate the front area so that it can be used for other things. The committee feels that the facility could be enhanced by relocating the ramp accessibility. The "front" of the Depot faces the skate park. It would be their hope to create an entry to the "waiting room." (current library space.) Re-working the ramps could create an improved traffic flow. The committee estimates that the ramps could be rebuilt for around \$3K. They would also like to see the building cleaned and repainted. Kastrosky acknowledged that an improved appearance could enhance the value of the structure. He reminded the group that there were previously people who wanted to save the Depot, but, they had no funding. A change in the make-up of the Town of Cable Board of Supervisors may result in a change in attitude regarding Depot preservation. Gilbert added that leaving the Depot at its current location will allow opportunities to partner with other organizations, local and regional/national railroad organizations that could mean funding for the project.

e. Campground committee report (Kastrosky)

Kastrosky reported that he had done some work on the campground ordinance and began to draft language. He'll try to meet with Hancock or Lendved in the next several weeks to discuss that language and a suitable place for it in the Town of Cable Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

f. Visioning committee report (Thurn, Rooney, Wilson)

Rooney reported that the committee met on 1/19 and the group included Gary Crandall, Mich Endersbe, David Popelka and Art Hancock in addition to Thurn, Rooney and Wilson. Rooney reported that they had considered three possible facilitators for the sessions. Tim Kane, who works for Bayfield County, can commit to involvement with a 12 month project and could meet with us in Cable twice a month. The person Hancock had recommended is unavailable at present. Drew Nussbaum of the WI Dept of Tourism didn't think this was a project they could assist with, although suggested they be consulted for the tourism piece of the project. The Dept of Tourism further recommended that as much economic data as possible be collected. Rooney reported that she had spoken to Ruth Oppedal, a former Washburn official who'd worked with Kane on a project and they reported that he is "process driven" and "a neutral leader" and is willing to train additional/local facilitators. It was further suggested that we might want to call the proposed work something other than "visioning" as that can be perceived as intimidating. "Study group" was one of the alternative suggestions. Rooney and the committee recommend that we contract with Tim Kane and use him, also, to train other facilitators to reach specific groups in our community. Rooney

asked the group if they were sure they wished to move forward with this. Frels thinks work that's been done with Kane has been good and that Cable should find ways to retain small-town values while building/retaining a prosperous economy. We need strong local leaders to support the work and need to identify strengths, weaknesses and opportunities. Rooney reported that one of "groups" identified by the committee might be called "Cable Keepers" which refers to long-time, life-long residents. Frels said he has people tell him that Cable works to support business, but what is being done for residents. Rooney stated she hopes Cable will be a vibrant, lively, beautiful small town that is thriving and friendly with a diverse economy.

Popelka talked about the survey done 10 years ago. The community worked through the process, the report was presented and nothing further happened. He suggested that a commitment from the Town Board that there will be action on the recommendations made. Kastrosky added "we need deliverables." Popelka further suggested that it would be important to "vision" for specific areas of our community, i.e. boat landings, the Fagg forest, etc, not just a comprehensive vision. Kastrosky stated he sees Cable as being light years ahead of other communities, a beautiful, safe, sustainable place to live. Frels added that the Plan Commission was one of the best things to ever happen to Cable. Hancock said that however the process works, at the end we need action items to present to the Town of Cable Board of Supervisors. He thinks we could work toward offering such a plan to the Town. More typically the Town asks the Plan Commission to work on specific issues. Kastrosky stated he felt that the Plan Commission should develop a foundation for the visioning work and outline a process and advise the Town of the planned program. Rooney responded that at the kickoff meeting this group might create a timeline, identify potential issues and the kind of "deliverables" we hope will result from this work. Thurn was asked if she will report to the Town of Cable Board on the Plan Commission's current actions on this subject. Rooney added that she hoped that the Town of Cable Board Supervisors will wish to involve themselves in the process. Kastrosky agreed but reminded Commissioners that it was going to be our process. Thurn expressed the thought that it would be excellent if Rooney would attend Town of Cable Board meetings to provide progress reports. Thurn will see that same is placed on their Feb. agenda. Rooney said she'd like the Town of Cable to offer a potential facilitator before Kane is contacted. Kastrosky revised that to: "we'd like to use Tim Kane unless you have another suggestion." Kastrosky reminded Commissioners that we had planned to have a separate meeting to discuss the visioning process. Hancock agreed with Rooney regarding the important of TOC Board buy-in on the visioning process. Rooney felt it was important to model teamwork and inclusivity.

Hancock stated that he has 6 kids who will probably all be leaving Cable. He is unsure if Cable is economically sustainable. It would be nice if our young people had an opportunity to stay in the area. We have work to do. Kastrosky stated that he hoped the stand-alone meeting could happen before our next regular meeting.

He suggested that issues to discuss at the meeting would be visions for the old school, the Depot, the Fagg Forest, re-zoning. Rooney said that visioning can happen in different ways, with a focus on the big picture and from there to details or vice versa.

Special meeting originally scheduled for Feb. 9. Rooney planned to check with Kane regarding his availability.

Meeting currently scheduled for Monday, March 27th.

NOTES OF THE 1/19 MEETING PROVIDED BY ROONEY ARE ATTACHED AS ADDENDUM TO THESE MINUTES.

- g. Airport overlay committee report. (Kastrosky)
Kastrosky reported that he had met with Bill DeVries. The Airport Commission meeting is scheduled for 2/8 and Kastrosky hopes to attend. He has developed some language for the proposed overlay and hopes to engage the Airport Commission in further development of that language for inclusion in the Town of Cable Comprehensive Land Use Plan. He reviewed some of the airport history with those present. The airport was started in 1947. The gun club property was donated by the Rondeau Family. He plans to include that approximate acreage of Town-owned property and the flight easements. Gilbert will work with Kastrosky on language. Kastrosky has also worked on the Gun Club, not necessarily as a separate overlay, as same received not much mention in existing Comp Plan. The language will include the purpose/intent of creating an airport overlay.

Kastrosky stated that it is his hope to wrap up work on the airport overlay and campground language before proceeding with visioning work. Kastrosky is unsure whether he'll be able to attend the 2/8 Airport Commission meeting and asked Thurn, the Cable representative to that Commission, to present this information to the Airport commission.

5. Zoning – no zoning for Feb.
6. Discussion and possible action on recommendation of Depot Committee.
Gilbert and Popelka will present the Depot Committee's recommendation to the Town of Cable Board. Hancock stated that he felt some of this work could and should be done this year. He inquired how much money was budgeted for the Cable Rec Park as he thinks those funds could be utilized for the Depot. Kastrosky said they should emphasize that this was the best plan they could come up with and that the Depot and its future would be discussed in the visioning process. Hancock thought that there should be a specific request for funds for proposed improvements and allows it could be a two-summer project.

Hancock motioned to present the report prepared by the Depot Committee to the Town of Cable Board and request that the Town Board allocate \$7K to accomplish the recommended work as soon as conditions allow. Gilbert seconded the motion.

Gilbert suggested that the Town might question the estimated costs. He said that when a grant request for similar work was submitted to the Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation they requested \$15K to complete the painting project, using a professional housepainter. The current amount would involve volunteer labor. Thurn asked that the document be forwarded to the Town of Cable Board of Supervisors.

Lendved asked, on behalf of the library, that the Committee and the Town consider allowing them to hold a final 4th of July booksale on the premises, to reduce the number of books that would have to be relocated. She further requested that the Town provide the library with a letter requesting them to vacate and providing a date by which same should be accomplished.

Motion carried.

7. Old Business: Theme and/or signage for Town of Cable

Frels reported that he had identified possible locations for “Welcome to Cable” signs and said he’d been telling affected property owners that the signs would be similar to the one located at the Cable Community Centre. Both sites are on Hwy 63. North of Cable the proposed site is on the southern corner of the intersection with Cable Lake Rd. This land is held in a Wald Family Trust and all family members must agree.

The site to the south is across from Como. Frels wants to get permission from property owners before proceeding with the permitting process. Kastrosky stated he’ll argue strongly for sign placement on Hwy 63. Many other communities have signs on state highways.

8. New Business:

9. Public Comment Period: (To avoid open meeting law violations, the Plan Commission may limit itself to answering basic questions from the public and place matters brought forth by the public on future meeting agendas for additional discussion and/or deliberation)

Thurn reported that Stacey McKinney, Heather Ludzack and Tammy Rasmussen all want to be on the Cable Beautification Committee.

10. Next meeting date (March 1) and future agenda items

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 1 at 5:30 at the Cable Community Centre.

11. Summary of goals and tasks for March Plan Commission meeting

Kastrosky expressed his appreciate to Plan Commissioners for all the work being done. He further expressed his appreciation that Commissioners feel free to speak openly at meetings.

12. Adjournment

Frels motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Rooney. Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

PUEPOSE: The subcommittee (Shelly Wilson, Sue Thurn, Suzanne Rooney) for the Visioning Process for the Town of Cable met to begin discussion on process elements, potential process facilitator, timeline, and key elements to consider.

IN ATTENDANCE: Subcommittee members (above), Gary Crandall, Mick Endersbe, Art Hancock, and Dave Popelka (Community Thought Leaders)

Summary

A lively and positive discussion took place which included: Discussion on what the visioning/planning process should be, how it will be used, who should lead the plan and how that is decided, which groups within Cable could be facilitated separately and by whom, what geographic area is included, the value of bringing in non residents, but frequent visitors (frequent flyers) into the process, how this plan links to the current comprehensive plan, a review of the 2003 study, focus on inspirational goals based on strengths and including the Cable Community of Elders (Cable Keepers) and our values, and although it is important to think of attracting people to Cable, we are building a great Cable for us that others will also enjoy.

Action Steps

- (1) Install journal/comment binder in a minimum of five locations (library, museum, Brickhouse, The Rivers, VFW, NorthEnd warming hut, Birkie Start). The binder would travel to the Cable Café, R Place Café and other locations expressing an interest in capturing comments on why people come to Cable (wording being developed to not preclude people already here). Shelly and Suzanne will do this within the week.
- (2) Explore the three potential facilitators including determining their availability for a 12 month period, fees, understanding of their process and experience, examination of their style for a fit with our plan, determining ability to train local facilitators, and obtaining a reference from a prior plan leader. Review findings with the subcommittee and make a recommendation for consideration by the Planning Committee at the February meeting. Suzanne will do the initial exploration and review results with the subcommittee.
- (3) Develop a rough time line for the process including key events and potential dates. This will be completed after the February planning commission meeting and prior to the March meeting with input from all.

Details

There was much discussion and difficult to capture in detail. This will be a recap in the order discussed. Visioning looks at what is unique and positive in a community and says where do we want to be at some future point, 20 years? It focuses on the strengths of the community and surrounding area and may include letting go of what is no longer embraced or possible. The process must include tactics to achieve the goals set out with a tentative timetable. These goals could become an agenda item on the Planning Commission and will need to be funded and embraced by the community and its leaders. There was much discussion of tourists vs. long time visitors (frequent flyers). They, along with a number of groups in Cable would be facilitated individually to capture their vision. (Some of these groups include, churches, young people, businesses, non-profits, the arts, agriculture, events, etc. being careful to represent views, ages, and ethnicities). We would include our local leaders to do facilitating of individual groups in locations to be determined. Mick volunteered The Rivers as a potential venue. Some discussion was given to how we communicate progress to the Cable Community and outlying geographies. How does the visioning process become a living document and how does it relate to the comprehensive plan? There are three potential facilitators: Tim Kane, UW Extension, Drew Nussbaum, Wisconsin Tourism Board, and a leader of a process called Appreciative Inquiry (VIVA), identify, vision, action. Please provide any additional information you would like me to add or corrections you feel need to be made. I am grateful to be part of this process and for the engagement and good will of those in attendance

