

TOWN OF CABLE PLAN COMMISSION
WORK MEETING 3/27/2017
CABLE COMMUNITY CENTRE – 6:15

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 6:15

2. Welcome and introductions

Present were Plan Commissioners James Bolen, Karl Kastrosky, Suzanne Rooney, Shelly Wilson, Paul Gilbert and Plan Commission Secretary Kristine Lendved. Also present were Tim Kane/Bayfield County, Sue Thurn, Town of Cable Supervisor, Bob Lang and Jack Radecki. Absent were Tom Frels and Art Hancock.

The discussion that followed included the items on this agenda but did not cover them in strict order. The discussion is, thus, offered as a narrative of the conversation, beginning after 11.

3. Purpose of this meeting.

4. Plan Commissioner expectations

5. Guidance for process. (Tim Kane)

6. Establishing format for obtaining information

7. Review, discussion and possible action on future utilization of existing Comp Plan Implementation Schedule

8. Issues to address

9. Definition of deliverables for Visioning Process

10. Next steps; define time-frame

11. Future meeting schedule

Tim Kane, a Community Development Educator with Bayfield County, was introduced and was present to assist the Visioning committee develop a protocol for our own visioning process. He inquired if the intention of the process was to amend the existing Town of Cable Comprehensive Land Use Plan or if it was a stand-alone effort. He reported that he had reviewed the existing Comp Plan and noted that while there was no overall community vision represented there, individual vision statements existed for 7 of 9 stated goals in the Comp Plan. He hopes to learn how this visioning process is to be used, to assist in the establishment of steps in the process and timeline for accomplishing it. Kastrosky added that the implementation schedule located at the end of the existing Comp Plan will be updated and/or replaced.

Kane suggested that the group should come up with a “name” for the process.

Kastrosky stated he felt that the Comp Plan should be the “keeper of the work.”

Rooney suggested something like “Imagine Cable 2030” as a process title and said she thinks it’s worth reviewing what was identified in the original Comp Plan. Kastrosky concurs but stated he didn’t want to lose track of what we’re doing now. The original 9 elements included in the Comp Plan were mandated by the State.

Thurn would like to emerge from the process with action steps. There are people in this community interested in action. While the Plan Commission is driving this the Town of Cable Board is in support of this and understands that it will have budgetary implications.

Kane inquired if we knew what our “goal” was. Kastrosky discussed expectations and said that change will happen and inquires if our approach will be proactive or reactive.

Kane inquired if we had identified a time-frame. Kastrosky responded that we were looking at 12-18 months. Kane reminded that the time frame needed to include scheduled planning, organizing, promotion, open houses and so forth. He shared some resources with those present:

- A visioning statement worksheet. Goals determined can but need not be “quantifiable.”
- Bayfield’s vision statement.
- Washburn incorporated a visioning process as they prepared their Comp Plan. They scheduled an ice cream social which included information gathering stations.
- General community visioning task forces-that focus on specific elements of the plan/process
- Pamphlet –using visioning in comp Planning process/ingredients of a vision statement.
- Hand-out on visioning: two versions. Short term, Long version.

The work leads to a draft vision statement which is taken to community workshops. Once a consensus is developed it can be used to develop an action plan.

Kane suggested that we begin/kick-off with a community workshop/social activity, something like Washburn’s ice cream social with work stations. He inquired about a community survey and whether we had access to a good email list. Could a survey be added to the Town’s website?

Kastrosky thanked Kane for the resources and felt there was much that could be gleaned from them but also stated that this process might go a bit “rogue.” He discussed “the three I s”:

INTENT – what/why we’re doing

IMPACT – who are we doing it to/with

IMPLEMENTATION – how will we do it?

Kastrosky felt that accomplishing above would be our first priority, after which we'd define a list of issues which might include the Depot, the Old School, etc. We would offer a questionnaire allowing people to offer input on these or other issues they feel are important to our community. Kane reminded the group that the visioning process could be used to make amendments to the Town of Cable Comprehensive Land Use Plan and possibly include things that were missed the first time through.

Rooney stated her feeling that the process should be an appreciative inquiry and an opportunity to reach consensus on shared values rather than our beginning with a list of identified issues. There are several ways to accomplish this. While we could come up with a vision on our own for people to react to, we could also distill a vision from community input. She suggested providing "thought starter" statements but not conclusions. We may require updated data on our community. Kane responded that data collection is part of the process. He stated that we could, at our kick-off event, learn from our community what they consider our assets to be. Ask what they value about life in Cable and explain why they want to live here. Individual vision statements could also be solicited. Rooney discussed the importance of working together and to allow a venue for communication. If people don't participate, so be it, so long as they know they had an opportunity to do so. There will be business people who want to engage and there should be some sort of survey of citizens.

What is the REASON for this process? What of Cable do we want to preserve? What do we want to change?

In a return to discussion about a "theme" or tagline, Bolen suggested CABLE TOMORROW. While there were other suggestions, this was the consensus choice.

What are we doing? Rooney said we're working to keep Cable a place where we all want to live. Lang said we should be inclusive. Rooney wanted to develop a vision that will make Cable the best possible place for us to live. Group additions to this idea pool included: uses of our natural resources, accommodate our visitors and encourage them to engage in respectful use of our resources, and maintain a balance and elevate respect for Cable's natural resources.

Kastrosky wondered if input should be solicited via "snail mail" or electronic mail. Rooney discussed creation of the ring-bound binder "books" placed around Cable to collect comments. The same appeal was issued on Facebook and responses were received from both efforts. Rooney also talked about defining specific groups to consult with, such as "Cable Keepers" which would be long-time family residents, the business community, the church communities, and those new to the area.

Kane discussed steps to take: identify community assets and/or values. Rooney thought that values were most important and stated, again, the intention to facilitate discussions with specific groups, as outlined above. Kane suggested larger groups. Bolen talked about working on building a “skeleton” of what we want to work on and sees our best success coming from a combination of in-person meetings and other forms of communication. It was expected that members of this group would be trained as facilitators and would lead break-out sessions so that control of the information collected can be maintained. Kane discussed the importance of identifying all stakeholders, groups and audiences.

While we are anxious to define what our “deliverables” will be, Kastrosky pointed out that can’t really happen until we’ve been through the public process and successfully defined the issues and values we wish to prioritize and deliver.

The target date defined for a wrap on the project is May 2018. A “deliverable” of this exercise will be included in the revised/amended Comp Plan.

Bolen inquired if we would, in May 2018, offer another public event. Kastrosky explained that when we’re done we hold a Public Hearing at which the Town adopts amendments to the Comp Plan. Amendments can also be made at the meeting. Kane said that more than one public meeting will be required enroute to the final Public Hearing. Kastrosky allowed that it might be late rather than early May 2018, or, possibly some months later than that.

Rooney inquired how the totality of issues are prioritized if we break into action teams. Kane suggested that information gathering at a public meeting would provide prioritization. Bolen suggested that if, say, five topics are identified as the most important, a tool like Survey Monkey could be used to prioritize those five things. Kastrosky encouraged the group to come up with a general plan that could be further discussed at the next Plan Commission meeting. A plan will be determined at the 4/5 Plan Commission meeting.

Bolen felt the group should consult with Kane again after the general plan was developed to ascertain that we didn’t miss anything. Rooney reminded the group that the two missing Plan Commission members would need to be brought up to speed and suggested that herself, Wilson and Thurn should meet and rough out a plane outline to be discussed at the 4/5 meeting. Notes from that meeting would be shared with Kane.

12. Adjournment

Bolen motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Rooney seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.