

**\*\*\*TOWN OF CABLE PLAN COMMISSION\*\*\***  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 4, 2022**

**1. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Town of Cable Plan Commission was called to order by Chairman Tony Erba at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 in the main assembly room of the Cable Community Center. **Present:** Chairman Tony Erba, Commissioners Kristine Lendved, Tony Merrill, David Popelka, Sue Thurn and Shelly Wilson.

**2. Chairman Remarks:** Regarding this evening's meeting agenda, Chairman Erba stated that the items are primarily strategic in nature and for discussion as opposed to being specific action items.

**3. Town Board Update**

- The two permits reviewed at the December Plan Commission meeting (Kelly/Wegener non-metallic mining permit renewal and Jan Taher short term rental permit) were approved by the Town Board.
- The special event checklist idea was discussed, with no action taken.
- The Board is working on scheduling a meeting with the Room Tax Commission members related to the short term rental process.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Merrill and carried.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

There being no corrections, a motion was made by Commissioner Lendved to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Thurn and carried.

**6. Public Input - Non-Agenda Items**

- David Popelka shared that he had attended a community input meeting on December 30, 2021 which was sponsored by the Cable Natural History Museum. Town board members were invited to attend as a segment of the community. Suzie Scheller of the Telemark Interval Owners Association (TIOA) apprised the attendees of the TIOA's proposal to create a non-profit organization with the goal of constructing facility buildings intended for education and community use. Planning is in the very early stages - the facility would include a 25 meter enclosed lap pool and hot

tub, a recreation and exercise center and possibly a full size tennis court with basketball hoops. Buildings would be constructed on TIOA property just south of the planned Mt. Telemark motel unit building. The intent is for the buildings to be open to the community for public use, not exclusive to TIOA members. Town Board members present agreed that if the project is to be successful, they would advise it to be marketed for public community use. Popelka shared for the purpose of making this Commission aware of the potential project, which will require Plan Commission involvement should it go forward. There is no follow-up meeting scheduled at this point.

## 7. Cable Tomorrow/Comprehensive Plan Updates and Projects

- **Welcome to Cable Sign Update** - Commissioner Thurn provided several artists' designs of proposed welcome signs for the north and south entrances to the Cable area. Also provided was an informational summary provided by Wendy Nicole Miller of Haylo Design titled "Cable Town Sign & Branding - Thoughts and Questions." Thurn is asking for input from the Plan Commission prior to meeting with the Connect Community group. For the south entrance, it is proposed that they also work with Bayfield County to possibly add a "Welcome to Bayfield County" sign at the county line. Review and discussion included the following comments:

- The signs' designs will require maintenance and upkeep, which will not automatically be accomplished. Who will take care of them?
- A vehicle passing by has approximately a 3 second time frame to view the signs' information, therefore it was suggested that less information is better in terms of complexity of the designs.
- Use of railroad ties in the construction would add a local flavor pointing to Cable's railroad history
- **Four words are important to the sign designs:** Trails, Forest, Lakes, Adventure.
- Suggested to use "Welcome to Cable **Area**" rather than just "Welcome to Cable".
- Suggested to get feedback from Town citizens on what they would like to see.
- The Chamber is willing to share their logo for the sign design.

Thurn stated that the next step in the process is to review designs and input with the Connect Community team and try to find a consensus. She will report back with her findings.

## 8. Transportation

- **Discussion Regarding Mt. Telemark Traffic on Randysek/McNaught Roads** - Commissioner Popelka shared that there have been many complaints directed

to the Town Board from citizens regarding the heavy traffic and speed of the traffic on Randysek and McNaught Rds. Heavy use of the two roads for events held at the Birkie start area seems to be the main source of the problem. The problem is exacerbated by the noise and speed of snowmobiles this time of year. Chairman Erba stated that the original agreement between the Town and the Birkie was that for any event that requires registration to participate, competitors are asked to enter via Telemark Road and exit from McNaught to Randysek. Commissioner Wilson stated that once the Mt Telemark master plan is complete, the trail head will be at the former Telemark Lodge site, with the current Great Hall building becoming an event center only. This plan should greatly reduce the traffic on Randysek and McNaught in the future. After further discussion, the Plan Commission makes the following recommendations to the Town Board:

- Clarify expectations with the Birkebeiner Foundation regarding Town of Cable road use and traffic patterns.
- Acknowledge residents complaints and provide avenues for public input.
- Put traffic counters in place to collect traffic flow data.
- Review/update signage along the route (esp. Randysek) to address speeding issues.

## **9. Members Comments**

- The Event Checklist and process is being discussed at the Town Board level and Commissioner Merrill is going to recommend that the Plan Commission be asked for their input on this subject. The primary thing the Town needs to know with an event is if Town services will be needed. Also, what exactly is an “event” needs to be defined. There is the potential to hire a liaison between event sponsors and the Town and Chamber.

## **10. Next Meeting - February 1, 2022**

**11.** Chairman Erba adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeannie Dixon, Secretary

Approved: February 1, 2022