

**Town of La Pointe
Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
Thursday, February 24, 2022
4:00 pm at Town Hall/Zoom
Minutes**

Members present: Dan Bartholomay, Charley Brummer, Sarah Caruso, Michael Collins, Alex Nelson,
Sally North, Jane Vogt
Staff present: Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

2. Public Comment (limited to 2 minutes each): None

3. Minutes of the following Steering Committee meeting to be considered for approval:

A. February 10, 2022

Motion by Michael C to approve the minutes of February 10, 2022, as presented, seconded by Jane, all ayes. Motion Carried.

4. Introduction: Committee Members (Jane Vogt)

Jane gave a more in-depth overview of her background.

5. Discussion of Utilities and Community Facilities (Goal 3), Agriculture, Natural & Cultural Resources (Goals 4,5 & 6) Intergovernmental Cooperation (Goal 8)

Michael K presented his overview of the following areas:

- Self-Sufficiency - energy, local food, and winter resiliency
- Community Center – what is the best way to meet programming /activity needs identified in work group survey
- Health Care – ensure core levels of service, financial solvency, additional specialty services; address need for succession planning
- Children – address child-care needs and role of the school
- First Responders – challenges to recruit and retain
- Water Quality – continue protecting surface and underground waters; improve understanding and monitoring of island aquifers
- Government Relations – define specific areas where Town administration and departments should focus efforts with other government bodies, assess relationship with Ashland County and Bayfield school district, build ongoing institutional partnerships with Bad River and Red Cliff

Additional documentation needed on arts in the community, recycling and waste reduction, civic engagement, long-range plan for sewer lines, high lake level/erosion impact on island, strong dependence on volunteers.

6. Report from Asset Map/Affinity Groups Subcommittee

Dan, Michael C and Jane met to organize the list of groups identified by committee members and put them into Asset Mapping Buckets.

- Most Likely Engagement Partners
Chamber of Commerce – business/economic development/tourism
Affordable Housing Advisory Committee – housing issues
Library - children, youth and recreation
Woods Hall – arts and culture
St. John’s UCC - social services and community resources
Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve – natural environment and sustainability
Marina/Yacht Club – waterfront resources, docks, island access
Town Plan Commission (TPC), Town Board, Town staff
- Key Connections to Make
La Pointe Community Clinic Apostle Islands Community Fund
Madeline Island Museum Bad River/Red Cliff tribes
Madeline Island School of the Arts Community Center Work Group
Madeline Island Community Garden Madeline Island Trails
Madeline Island Golf Club
- All others were organized into the above categories or additional categories of transportation, amenities to build on, events/gatherings, physical assets.
- Discussion of utilizing social capital, staff and Board ideas for communicating with residents.
- Concern about how many key tasks on island depend on volunteerism or leadership that may not be sustainable; what is balance between informal and intentional infrastructure, what should Town do, what can nonprofits do?
- Committee needs to articulate the vision/aspirations/principles that define and guide the essence of the plan.

7. Detailed Timeline Reaction/Discussion

Review and discussion on the timeline Dan presented:

- Phase 1 – Discovery and existing conditions (5 meetings Jan. – March 15)
- Phase 2 – Design community survey and engagement strategy (2 meetings thru April 15)
- Phase 3 – Community engagement process (4 meetings thru June 30)
- Phase 4 – Review findings and frame Plan document (4 meetings thru Sept. 18)
- Phase 5 – Finalize draft and present to TPC (2 meetings thru Sept. 30)
- Final Phase – Present Comprehensive Plan to Town Board (1 meeting in Oct.)

Discussion on committee members diving into each topic and sending no more than 5 priorities to Michael K to organize.

Discussion on finding a survey consultant; Michael K will research.

Discussion on setting workshop with Town Board.

9. Set next meeting and agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 4 pm

10. Adjourn

Motion by Sarah to adjourn, seconded by Jane.

Minutes taken from recording and submitted by Dorgene Goetsch, Clerical Assistant

Minutes approved as presented March 10, 2022.