

**Town of La Pointe
Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
Thursday January 12, 2023
4 pm at Town Hall/Zoom
Minutes**

Members present: Alex Nelson (Chair), Charley Brummer, Jane Vogt, Michael Collins, Sally North and Dan Bartholomay
Members absent: Sarah Caruso
Staff present: Michael Kuchta, Town Administrator
Public present: Brian Tochterman, Northland College

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting called to order by Alex Nelson.

2. Public Comment #1

None

3. Minutes to be considered for approval:

A. January 5, 2023

Motion by Michael C to approve above minutes, seconded by Jane, all ayes.

Motion carried.

Clerical Assistant note; Dan Bartholomay was not present for vote.

4. Update from Brian (Northland)

- Brian has assigned requested additional research to 5 student teams. He is looking for a committee point person for each team. Michael K will e-mail contacts to Brian tomorrow. The students will be initiating contact with committee members.
- Brian has given the students a deadline of 3/3/23.
- Michael K reported the Town Plan Commission (TPC) has set a public hearing for 3/29/23, within the posting is a notice that a draft plan will be available 10 days prior.

5. Debrief from Northland Meeting

- Alex, Michael K and Dan were happy with the outcome of the meeting.
- Michael passed along current conditions data the committee compiled last year.
- Sally will send 2022 real estate sales data to Brian.

6. Discuss & Assign Northland research contacts

Discussion on the role of the committee contact person for Northland teams.

Northland contacts are as follows:

Michael C - High quality of life
Alex Nelson - Economic vitality
Charley Brummer - Partnerships

Dan Bartholomay - Community resources & sustainability
Jane Vogt - Plan requirements

7. Discuss & Assign Committee Draft work

- Draft work to include: identify problem or goal, include research/survey findings or justification, make action recommendations (how does this address the problem/goal), suggest level of urgency/resources/effort needed, identify who is responsible for implementation/monitoring.
- See below for writing responsibilities.
- Michael K will create a worksheet to use for draft.
- Committee members should send a draft of at least one topic to Michael K by Mon. 1/23/23 so he can compile and distribute before the 1/26/23 meeting.

8. Public Hearing Date

- The TPC has set the public hearing to review the draft comprehensive plan amendment for Wed. 3/29/23 at 5:00 pm. Michael will work with the TPC on what they want from the committee.
- Some discussion on continued outreach to community groups originally engaged.
- Consensus to ask TPC to hold this public hearing at the Emergency Services Building instead of Town Hall.

9. Public Comment #2

None

10. Set next meeting and agenda

Next regular meeting scheduled for 1/26/23 at 4 pm
Agenda – draft action steps, community engagement

11. Adjourn

Motion by Dan to adjourn, seconded by Charley, all ayes. Motion Carried.

Minutes taken from recording and submitted by D. Goetsch, Clerical Assistant
Minutes approved as presented 1/26/23. D. Goetsch, Clerical Assistant

Writing Responsibility Assignments

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Writer</i>
Natural Beauty and Resources	Action step: Define “junk” properties and pursue clean-up	Brummer
	Action step: Define role of trailers and campers, limitations and requirements for use	North
	Action step: Tighten and clarify guidelines and enforcement on where to allow business activities outside commercial core	Brummer
	Action step: Uniform, comprehensive enforcement of Zoning Ordinance	Vogt
	Maintain: access to natural environment; look for opportunities to add public lake access and improve accessibility at Big Bay Town Park	Nelson
	Maintain: wetlands protection in Zoning Ordinance	North
	Maintain: Proper use of density as outlined in Zoning Ordinance	Vogt
Community Resources and Sustainability	Action step: Island roundtable	Bartholomay/Caruso
	Action step: Educate property owners about zoning, using specific cases as examples	Brummer
	Action step: Understand why more than one-third of year-round residents are thinking of leaving island, address these concerns to maintain diverse population	Northland
	Action step: Take cooperative approaches to build on existing farmers markets and community garden, make fresh food (beyond eggs) more available and more affordable for more of the year	Northland
Economic vitality	Action step: Bring tourism into better balance – what kinds and what time(s) of year – to protect character of island	Collins
	Action step: Improve appearance, diversity, reliability, and customer-relations skills of businesses in commercial core	Collins
	Action step: Use Chamber website or other means to create directory of businesses, services and housing options that are targeted as much at island residents as at visitors	North
	Action step: Create space for commercial-oriented business development	Collins

	Action step: Use zoning and other tools to address impact of short-term rentals on Town economy and long-term housing availability	Vogt
	Action step: How, where to improve/expand bicycling infrastructure	Northland
	Action step: Formal mentoring, succession planning	Collins
Culture of diversity	Action step: Dialogue between Town, Museum, tribes on presence of Anishinaabe culture, activities, people on island	Nelson
<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Writer</i>
Culture of diversity (continued)	Maintain: Role of Museum, MIHPA in preserving and promoting island's heritage and historical places	Nelson
	Maintain: Presence of and opportunities for artists to thrive	Collins
Partnerships	Action step: Formalize relationships, responsibilities among Town, key island organizations	Bartholomay
	Action step: Identify Ashland County services, agencies that need to increase presence on island	Northland
	Action step: Get a commitment from Bayfield School District about presence on island or pursue island-only alternatives	Kuchta
	Action step: Pursue specific ways to consistently engage seasonal residents in decision-making on island	Brummer
	Maintain: Importance of unique sense of place	Bartholomay
High quality of life	Action step: Preserve and expand presence and services of Clinic	Northland
	Action step: Secure direct mental-health and addiction services for island residents	Northland
	Action step: Ensure that ferry line, wind sled, and other means of access to and from the island are affordable, available and reliable	Bartholomay
	Action step: Housing options that are affordable, available year-round, and decent	Vogt
	Action step: Expand year-round availability of goods and services through targeted addition of new entrepreneurs or cooperative buying arrangements	Northland
	Action step: Support (and expand where possible) child-care services that Library and St. John's currently provide	Northland
	Action step: Develop necessary supports, infrastructure for more residents to age in place	Northland
	Action step: Create community gathering opportunities that are alcohol-free	Nelson
	Action step: Cooperative efforts to generate more activities in winter	Nelson

	Action step: A new “community center” – what kind and where?	Nelson
Other components		
Background data	Current and future conditions and trends: Population, employment, housing, personal demographics, infrastructure, economic activity, governmental relations, land use	Northland