

TOWN OF GREEN BAY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

DATE: 6/24/08

TIME: 7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Dawn Goodman, Gary Jonet, Dianne Jacobs, Bob Geyer, Mike Gilson, Bob Boncher.

ABSENT: John Metzler(excused due to prior employment commitment)

*Others present: Bernard and Jan La Crosse.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES: In the absence of John Metzler, the Planning Commission asked Dianne Jacobs to run the meeting and so she opened the meeting & noted that it was properly posted in 3 places. The minutes from the 5/20/08 Planning Commission Meeting were reviewed.

MOTION MADE BY: Bob Geyer to accept the minutes.

MOTION 2NDED BY: Gary Jonet.

AYES: 6

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED.

ISSUE #1: Bernard La Crosse CSM. (7:05-7:15 pm).

Bernard explained the map to various Planning Commission members. The CSM shows a survey, division and map of a part of the Northeast ¼ of the Northwest ¼ of Section 24, Town 25 North-Range 22 East, Town of Green Bay, Brown County, Wisconsin. Bernard explained that this was done in order to help address possible and potential right of way, driveway and easement issues if and when property lot transfers would take place. The Planning Commission was satisfied with the explanation of the map.

MOTION MADE BY: Gary Jonet to recommend to the Town of Green Bay Board:

1. To accept the CSM.
2. To set a date for the Town Board to hold a hearing on this matter on Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. This time was later changed to 7:00 p.m. when Dawn Goodman realized a special earlier meeting was not necessary because it concerns only a CSM.

MOTION 2NDED BY: Mike Gilson

AYES: 6

NAYS: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ISSUE #2: Continued Discussion About a Sex Offender Ordinance. (7:16-8:12 p.m.).

Dawn Goodman informed the Planning Commission that she has completed doing data entry on second, revised version of the Town of Green Bay Sex Offender Ordinance based on revisions to the "Town of Humboldt Sexual Offender Presence and Activity Restrictions and Neighborhood Watch Committee", which she had received from Town's attorney, Steven Gillis. She explained to the Planning Commission that the Town of Humboldt version was now finalized and that it also was approved by the Department of Corrections and the Brown County Sheriff's Department.

Dawn Goodman passed out copies to each Planning Commission member of the latest letter from attorney Steven Gillis which answered questions that the Planning Commission and Town Board had instructed her to ask Attorney Gillis regarding the initial version of the Ordinance (the questions appear below):

1. In section 5.1 Chairman DeChamps and the Planning Commission would like the distance stated as 300 feet to be changed to a greater distance of 2000 feet, (which would allow coverage of the Bay Shore Park area).

2. Both the Town Board and the Planning Commission felt very strongly that we do not want to include an NWC as part of the ordinance. If we must include it, then the question is: do we need to implement the NWC immediately or can it wait until such time as an offender is placed in the Town.

3. Also, if we are required to have an NWC, both the Town Board and the Planning Commission would like to know what the Liability for NWC members would be in the event an Offender assaults someone, commits a crime or escapes due to an NWC member making a mistake, and/or failing to do some of the prescribed activities required and/or forgetting to do some of the prescribed activities.

4. Both the Town Board and the Planning Commission would like to know if these NWC workers are paid positions or volunteers. If the positions are paid, how much is Humboldt paying their NWC members?

5 And both the Town Board and the Planning Commission would also like to know what background and education these individuals should have--should we require certain levels of education, background checks, resumes, etc.

6. Both the Town Board and the Planning Commission would like to know if we have to have the prescribed number of NWC members or can this be changed? And if possible, could the NWC members be shared with the Town of Humboldt and/or other towns near us taking part in the pilot program?

After reviewing the Attorney's letter, the Planning Commission the Planning Commission discussed at length the matter of distance again, noting that Town of Green Bay Chairman, Lee De Champs instructed them to make sure that in Section 5 (Prohibited Presence of Restricted Offender 5.1), that it read: "It is unlawful for Restricted Offenders to be Present within a two thousand feet (2,000) foot radius of certain Excluded areas". The attorney suggested it be at 300 feet. The Planning Commission felt very strongly that this was not enough distance to provide protection for the Bay Shore Park area, which not only has daily visitors, but also campers who stay overnight or longer in the area. Planning Commission member, Bob Boncher, basing his opinion partly on his experience as a former police officer, strongly recommended that the Planning Commission stick to 2,000 feet. Dawn Goodman, on behalf of Planning Commission Chairman John Metzler, who asked her by telephone to do so earlier in the day, passed out copies of the 6/24/08 Press Gazette article about the Village of Howard passing its sex offender restrictions. Dawn stated that John Metzler felt very strongly that we should stay with a distance of at least 2,000 feet or, if possible, follow the Howard recommendation of 2,500 feet. The Planning Commission members finally agreed that they wanted the distance to be 2,000 feet and not any less.

Dianne Jacobs and Gary Jonet both questioned if the Town of Green Bay should continue to pursue the current proposed Sex Offender Ordinance and they went on further, questioning if the Town should actually take part in this limited Pilot Project that Attorney Gillis is working on with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections and the Brown County Sheriff's Department. Other Planning Commission members felt that the Town should still have a Sex Offender Ordinance because the surrounding communities are doing so and it needs to be addressed.

Various Planning Commission members also brought up their dislike for setting up a Neighborhood Watch Committee (NWC) and how much the current proposed ordinance is built around the NWC. Various members expressed concern that the NWC members were in essence having to do some of the work the DOC and Sheriff are already assumed to be doing. The Planning Commission eventually decide that the emphasis should be more about where an offender can and cannot live in the community. Bob Boncher, strongly recommended doing a Sex Offender ordinance but leaving out the portion about the NWC.

The Planning Commission decided to table the matter until Dianne Jacobs could check with the Town's Association for guidance on the matter for a model ordinance or guidelines to follow. Dianne also was asked to discuss these matters with the Town of Green Bay Board at the upcoming July meeting to see how they wish to proceed, based on the Planning Commission's strong feelings on this matter and their disagreement with the Town Attorney's opinions. All noted the Sex Offender Moratorium remains active.

ISSUE #3: Scott Hansen requesting Permit for Small Wind Turbine on Hansen Pallet Property (8:13-8:20 p.m.)Dawn Goodman explained that Scott Hansen had been in contact with Town Clerk Debbie Mercier earlier in the day to say that he might not be able to make the meeting. He told her his issue could be continued to the July or later Planning Commission meeting. Gary Jonet instructed Dawn Goodman to contact Scott Hansen to have him come to Gary Jonet for the necessary paper work immediately and then the matter could be put on an upcoming agenda.

ISSUE #4: Any Other Business

There were no other issues or business addressed.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING WERE SET: Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
MOTION to Adjourn Made by: Bob Geyer. Bob Boncher 2nded. 6 Ayes, No Nays. Motion carried.
TIME OF ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 p.m.

Planning Commission Chairman

Planning Commission Secretary