



Winn Tomorrow

Winnebago Citizens - Planning Our Future



Meeting of the Planning Advisory Group for the Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan

Thursday, October 9, 2003

Vinland Town Hall

Present: Representatives and Citizens from various Local Communities throughout Winnebago County
(Note: Complete list of attendees can be obtained from UWEX Community Development Educator)

Meeting started at 5:30pm.

Ray Batley, Chairman from the Town of Vinland and Chairman of the Planning Advisory Group welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Jerry Bougie explained the handouts. Handouts included “Written Procedures for Public Participation for the Winnebago County Comprehensive Planning Process” which was adopted by the County Board on September 23, 2003 and the “Development Review Process”;

Catherine Neiswender of the UW-Extension office presented the “Summary of Initial Comments on County Comprehensive Plan”. Five towns, two cities, the DNR, the UW-Extension and the Land Use Center, and two individuals submitted comments. The Management Group met in September after all comments had been submitted. The Planning Advisory Group (PAG) worked through the 11 themes of comments the Management Group identified. The decision on these comments are as follows:

Theme 1a. The PAG decided to go with options b, c, and d, which consist of a rewrite of the policy framework. We need to clarify if a minor/specific amendment to a Town Plan would require them making the entire Town plan come into compliance with the County plan policies.

Theme 1b. These 14 goals are part of the requirements of the County’s grant application and need to be included in the document. They could be moved into the introduction section with an explanation of the origin of these 14 goals.

Theme 2/Theme . After reviewing the suggestion from the Towns of Vinland and Oshkosh regarding the three paragraphs on Page V-8, the PAG revised the two paragraphs to read as follows and included the third paragraph as it was originally written on page V-8:

“Municipalities, Local Land Use Plan. The existing land uses are included at this time. Plans completed by January 1, 2009 should be included in the same way as other locally adopted land use plans. These plans should be compliant with the State of Wisconsin Smart Growth Regulations.

New plans or plans amended after an adopted plan is submitted to the County should be accepted into the County Plan by agreement between the local unit of government and the County. The County should adopt policies or memorandums of understanding for review of local land use plans and accept all future amendments compliant with state law.

Other plans are not subject to approval by the County – most notable plans for Villages and Cities and some other types of agreements such as boundary agreements. For these plans, the policies should be used as a basis for review and comment. In addition, the County should use its influence and its cooperation with incorporated areas as a basis for increasing compliance with these policies.”

Theme 3. Editorial comments will be forwarded to PDI.

Theme 4. Use the phrase “consider the need for” instead of “must show” for the policies that specify fiscal assessments/cost-benefit analyses.

Theme 5. These legal questions will be addressed with the policy rewrite.

Theme 6. This role will be better defined with the policy rewrite.

Theme 7. PAG decided on the date 1/1/2009 for all plans to be completed and submitted to the county for inclusion into the County Plan. This will give the County one year (before the 1/1/2010 date) to complete the stitching and public hearings for their plan. The PAG did not want to have an “open-ended” timeframe for any plan to be included automatically into the County Plan.

Theme 8. PDI needs to use the Grant Closeout form as a guide for addressing deficiencies. The state will use this closeout form prior to releasing the last portion of the grant funds.

Theme 9. Need to include the additional content regarding the Natural Resource Element. Addressing these comments could be as simple as mentioning them in the text noting that the county will adhere to all current and future revisions to any applicable regulations. The comments regarding the Transportation Element will be handled separately, as PDI did not write that portion of the plan.

Theme 10 a and b. These concerns will be addressed in the policy rewrite. These vision statements came from the PAG’s earlier work with Mike Koles. See “Winnebago County Comprehensive Plan Visioning Report.”

Theme 11. These changes will be forwarded to PDI from the individual municipalities.

All comments regarding these themes will be summarized and forwarded to PDI. A tentative date of November 11 was set to have the next/final Public Meeting with PDI.

Ray Batley recommended that a small group of volunteers from the Planning Advisory Group meet to work on the rewriting of the policy framework. Volunteers include: Jim Johnson, Denny Briggs, Charles Olson, Jim Erdman, Gerry Frey, Ray Batley, John Schaidler, Lyle Forsgren, Dave Schmidt, and Jerry Bougie. The group would probably try to meet on Wednesday evenings as early as 5:30pm, but will get meeting notices and minutes out to the PAG members. Date of first meeting to be announced at a later time.

Meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by:
Kristi Bales, Planning Group Representative from City of Oshkosh