

**Meeting Minutes:  
Door County “Smart Growth” Plan  
Agricultural & Natural Resources Work Group – 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting  
February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**1. Open meeting/introductions.**

The first meeting of the Agricultural & Natural Resources Work Group was held in the Sturgeon Bay Library Basement, 107 S. 4th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, February 5th, 2008. The meeting started at approximately 6:15 p.m.

**Present:**

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Braatz	Laurel	WDNR
Guillette	Gale	Union, Town Of
Heimbecher	Mark	Clay Banks, Town Of
Konkol	Dale	Door County, Soil & Water
Miller	Annie	Liberty Grove, Town Of
Nelson	Monica	Forestville, Town Of
Overbeck	Guy	Clay Banks, Town Of
Paitrick	Mary	Door County Economic Development Corporation
Sigmann	Peter	Sustain Door
Skadden	Nancy	Stewardship Council
Vandertie	Bill	Property Owner

**Also present:**

Mariah Goode, Door County Planning  
Becky Kerwin, Door County Planning

**2. Brief Overview: “Smart Growth” Legislation and County Plan Development Process**

Goode explained that the State of Wisconsin enacted the “Smart Growth” legislation in 1999. It requires certain municipalities to write a comprehensive plan by 2010 in order to guide land use decision-making and also requires consistency between the comprehensive plan and the zoning ordinance. Door County’s comprehensive plan process is guided by the county board-established adhoc Core Planning Committee (CPC). The CPC consists of one representative from each local unit of government and two representatives from the Door County Resource Planning Committee. The CPC is providing general guidance to the planning process, communication between the county and local municipalities, and review and approval of all work documents (i.e., element goals and actions, chapter drafts, vision statement, etc.). Documents developed to date that will also guide the planning process include the following:

- Public Participation Plan (adopted by the County Board in April, 2007)
- Draft Vision Statement. Four visioning sessions were held across the county between October 2006 and May 2007. Public input and ranking exercises were conducted regarding the county’s assets and vision for the future.
- Resource Report. Background information, data, maps, and projections required by the Smart Growth legislation.
- Inventory of Completed Municipal Plan Goals. A document that identifies similarities and any potential conflicts between the completed municipal plan goals.

These documents and more can be found on the comprehensive planning website located at [http://map.co.door.wi.us/planning/comp\\_planning.htm](http://map.co.door.wi.us/planning/comp_planning.htm).

### **3. Work Group Role in Development of County Plan**

Goode stated that the work group role in the development of the county plan is to help draft the element vision statements and to help develop the element goals, objectives, and policies. The CPC will review all work group products, which will then be reviewed by the Resource Planning Committee, and ultimately by the County Board.

### **4. Review and Discuss Resource Report**

Goode stated that the Resource Report, researched and written by Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission, is currently in a very rough draft form. Planning Department staff will be doing a great deal of additional work over the next few months in order to develop the Resource Report into a final draft. When reviewing the report, be aware that the yellow high-lighted text in the report indicates notes or comments inserted by Mariah and Becky.

The final Resource Report will be one of two volumes of the county plan, from which readers will be able to get all of the objective, factual data about Door County required by the Smart Growth legislation. The other volume of the plan will contain the element statute language, vision statements, and goals, objectives, and policies.

The Introduction chapter of the report will give an outline/overview of the document and an explanation of the document organization. It will also briefly explain what the “Smart Growth” plan is and describe what is contained in each of the two volumes.

The Issues and Opportunities chapter contains a chart of the visioning meeting results and an explanation of the chart. The visioning meeting results were used to draft an overall vision statement and will also be used to guide the work group element vision statements. This chapter also contains general issues and opportunities identified from the visioning meeting results. The population information that is currently in the housing chapter will be moved to the Issues and Opportunities chapter.

Agricultural and Natural Resources chapter:

Items discussed included:

- Number and types of farms.
- Vegetable farm acres (i.e., peas, snap-beans, sweet corn); FSA may have 3-year crop history; discussion on small-scale vegetable farming.
- Forest crop land.
- Trend towards larger farms, '97 – '02; discuss smaller niche farms.
- Definition of a farm (\$500 or more in sales?)
- Year WI switched over to use value.
- Working Lands Initiative.
- Environmental impacts of agriculture are a reality and should be included in the report; re-frame the discussion to talk about in the context of programs that currently exist.
- Economic impacts of agriculture: possibly look at western Waukesha as an example; may want to contact Larry Smith as a resource; don't list the producers.
- Plans and programs: more in the Land and Water Resource Management Plan; include the Beach monitoring program.
- Preservation/conservation agencies – instead of listing all of them in the chapter, put in resource section at end of chapter.
- Wetlands – Denis Scheberle study, overall Door Co. is doing a good job protecting wetlands.
- Non-metallic mining: regulation of new sites; issue of mines turning into lakes.
- Environmental corridors: Bay-Lake RPC study; Natural Areas Group document.
- Include discussion on Lake Michigan water diversion

**5. Set next meeting date.**

**8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 5th, 2008**

Location: Sturgeon Bay Library Jane Greene Room

**6. Adjourn.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

*Minutes transcribed by Becky Kerwin, Door County Planning*