

**Meeting Minutes:
Door County "Smart Growth" Plan
Community Facilities, Utilities, and Transportation Work Group – 3rd Meeting
April 8, 2008**

1. Open meeting/introductions.

The third meeting of the Community Facilities, Utilities, and Transportation Work Group was held in the Sturgeon Bay Library, Jane Greene Room, 107 S. 4th Avenue, Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 8, 2008. The meeting started at 6:05 p.m.

Present:

Last Name	First Name	Agency
Anschutz	Paul	Door County Silent Sports Alliance
Busch	Pam	Door County Transportation Consortium
Fritschler	John	Property Owner
Goetsch	Griff	May Realty
Heimbecher	Mark	Clay Banks, Town of
Hippensteel	John	Lake Michigan Wind and Sun
Krolich	Dale	Door County Silent Sports Alliance
Meyer	Ken	Property Owner
Olson	Chris	Door County Sanitarian Department
Rogers	Rick	Sustain Door
Rossberg	Doug	Friends of Door County Park System, Inc.
Sohns	Sara	Villagers Snowmobile Club, Inc.
Steinberger	Bob	Gardner, Town of

Also present:

Mariah Goode, Door County Planning
Becky Kerwin, Door County Planning
Rob Burke, UW-Extension

2. Review previous meeting minutes.

The minutes were accepted with no revisions.

3. Review previous meeting visioning exercise results:

- a. Draft element vision statement.**
- b. Issues.**
- c. Opportunities.**
- d. Draft goals.**

Before the meeting, work group participants were to have reviewed the results from the work group visioning and other discussion exercises conducted at the 2nd meetings on-line at http://map.co.door.wi.us/planning/Comp-Plan/work-group_reading.htm.

Comments/discussion on the draft element vision statements, issues, opportunities, and goals/action items comprised the remainder of the meeting. Work group participants divided into smaller groups for discussion purposes: 1) community facilities, 2) utilities, and 3) transportation.

Discussion participants

Dale Krolich
Doug Rossberg
Sara Sohns

Facilitator

Becky Kerwin

Community facilities vision statement discussion

- The vision statement needs an emphasis on improving education and communication between user groups and breaking down provincial barriers.

Community facilities issues discussion

- Spell out what “NIMBYism” means (Not In My Back-Yard).
- Volunteer liability issues.
 - The DNR and county have policies against certain activities that volunteers want to do (i.e., they can’t let volunteers use chainsaws).
- Creating more recreational infrastructure requires permanent/more personnel to “man” the additional properties.

Community facilities opportunities discussion

- Government should consider integrating libraries into the schools.
- Purchasing of multi-use equipment (i.e., tractors to groom trails for both cross-country skiing and snowmobiling) to share amongst user groups.
- Work with state agencies to become more accountable to local needs and desires.
 - Better communication with DNR regarding grooming of trails (i.e., trails need to be groomed almost immediately after a snowfall).
- DCVB to better promote recreation in the county to tourists, especially younger tourists.
 - Promote county parks as equally as they promote the state parks.
 - Create strong link to eco-tourism.
 - Better promote year-round tourism.
 - Motor coach tours will not bring in the younger tourist.
- Create a better recreational infrastructure for sport tournaments.
 - Key in on “Door County University” concept to coordinate family vacations with sport tournaments.
- Purchasing property across from Murphy Park (triathlon parking area) for a cave-touring staging area and nature center.
 - Work with the Wisconsin Speological Society for possible funding.
- Create a pool of “floater” park rangers and naturalists to staff additional recreational properties.
- Combating NIMBYism and educating people on the history of their property

Community facilities goals/actions discussion

RE: First set of goals that relate to all community facility goals:

- Re-word the first goal/third sub-goal regarding establishing cooperative relationships and efforts.
 - Include state agencies with jurisdiction over recreational areas and the DCVB in the non-profit coordination council.
 - Include bullet point on purchasing and sharing equipment between user groups.
- Re-word the second goal to identify what it actually means to be moving towards a tourism-based economy and identify options to make this movement less negative.
 - Establish realistic expectations that come with greater tourism.
 - More service-based, lower-paying jobs.
 - Develop and promote how tourism can help those who do live here year-round.
 - More diversity, culture, and the arts.
 - Often residents have better amenities and services because of the tourist-based economy; municipalities cater to the tourist and try to attract more by building/buying better amenities (i.e., Village of Sister Bay Helms property; Town of Liberty Grove fire station, etc.)

- Determine how to better utilize tourism dollars (i.e., tourism zone tax) to more widely benefit the entire year-round community
 - Help small businesses that cater to tourists to be financially able to offer employee benefits.
- Additional bullet point about combating NIMBYism - educate property buyers/owners on the status of trails that run through their property
 - Create a clearinghouse for information for people looking to buy property in Door County
 - Offer a phone number and website for people to contact
 - Request that the Door County MLS require information about trails be included on the listing sheet of properties for sale that have trails running through them.
 - Stock realtor offices with flyers about location of trails.

RE: Fourth set of goals to maintain and improve community facilities and institutions.

- Under second goal/second sub-goal, add a sub-sub-goal: Consider consolidating some struggling libraries into the school libraries.

Add another goal about improving the over-all recreational infrastructure within Door County

- Better cooperation with the state and county parks.
 - More timely trail grooming on state park trails.
 - Allowing volunteers to do more types of work in the state and county parks.
 - Combat anti-snowmobiling sentiment.
- Better cooperation with the DCVB.
 - Improved promotion of all Door County recreational facilities, including the county parks.
 - Motor-coach tours will not bring youth into the county; the tourism industry needs more youth.
 - Create stronger links to eco-tourism and year-round tourism.
- Build/acquire more recreational infrastructure and staff appropriately.
 - Build more sport fields and facilities for children's sport tournaments.
 - Acquire property across the street from Murphy Park for nature center and cave touring.
 - Work with Wisconsin Speological Society for possible funding.
 - Create a pool of "floater" park rangers and naturalists to staff additional recreational facilities.
- Key into "Door County University" concept to build vacations for the entire family.
 - Sport tournaments for kids.
 - Camps for kids including soccer, tennis, etc.
- Offer trade apprenticeships for parks and recreation careers.

Utilities

Discussion participants

John Fritschler
 Griff Goetsch
 Mark Heimbecher
 John Hippensteel
 Ken Meyer
 Chris Olson

Facilitator

Mariah Goode

Utilities vision statement discussion

No changes were suggested to the draft vision statement compiled from the second work group meeting discussions.

Utilities goals/actions discussion

- Goal action item on top of p.17 regarding a potential "ban" on holding tanks should be reworded so as to read more along the lines of "Review and revise – as or if appropriate – county policies and regulations regarding holding tank installation."

- Note that banning new installation of steel holding tanks, as suggested by the Land Use work group, is probably necessary.
 - Need to determine what, if anything, to do about existing steel holding tanks.
- Disposal of things like batteries, CFL lightbulbs, etc. – we need more education regarding the fact that these things shouldn't just get tossed in the garbage, as well as actual places/sites that accept them.
- “Non-dog-friendly” engine coolants are actually toxic/deadly – reword!
- Waste treatment methods may provide energy – we can/should try to solve more than one problem at once.
 - Example: animal waste from agricultural operations. Although the county may not have any farms large enough to set up individual treatment/conversion centers, waste from multiple farms could be consolidated and treated at a common location. Laurel Braatz from DNR has information on this.
- County vehicles – look into biofuel or other potentially cheaper and definitely more environmentally-friendly fuel options. Also, look at cheaper, more environmentally-friendly vehicles when replacement of existing is necessary.
- If there are any businesses in the county that use significant quantities of water, we should help them figure out how to better clean their wastewater before it enters utility systems and/or POWTS, or, better, yet, help them find ways to re-use wastewater on site.
- Achieving consensus regarding where to site what kinds of energy facilities is going to be difficult. Also, we need to make sure that all of our decisions/goals are not in conflict, with each other, or with general “Smart Growth” principles.
- Utility lines and aesthetic considerations.
 - Primary, high-voltage power lines are expensive to bury in general, let alone given the bedrock issues in Door County.
 - Secondary power lines, however, such as those serving a subdivision or individual uses, can easily and not too expensively be buried.
 - Telecommunications lines can easily be buried, both in terms of the actual process and cost to do so.

Transportation

Discussion participants

Paul Anschutz
 Pam Busch
 Rick Rogers
 Bob Steinberger

Facilitator

Rob Burke

Transportation vision statement discussion

No changes were suggested to the draft vision statement compiled from the second work group meeting discussions.

Transportation issues discussion

- Need to add/discuss public transportation systems:
 - Specialized non-profit shuttles and private for-profit taxi services exist
 - No general bus services, though

Transportation opportunities discussion

- With regard to the opportunities identified previously regarding “Park and Ride” sites, first sub-bullet should note that the “plan” is that of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation
 - We have an existing informal park and ride system in the county.
 - For example, we anecdotally know that people are meeting at places with large parking lots (Wal-Mart, Target, etc.) and then carpooling from there, leaving their cars all day.

Transportation goals/actions discussion

- Re-wording suggestions within goal on p. 19 regarding development approvals:
 - Rather than saying that “resorts” don’t need to be built on the water, change to “hotels, restaurants, condominiums, etc.”
 - Note that cul-de-sacs also act as barriers for safety vehicles.
 - Note that separate sidewalks and bike paths would be ideal; combined are less preferable.
- New action items regarding supporting/initiating efforts to improve transportation systems
 - Tame and use our existing “wildcat” (informal) park and ride system.
 - Identify current and potential areas around Door County used for informal “Park and Ride” and formalize and publicize them.
 - Encourage and support businesses that provide transportation options to employees.
 - Participate in regional efforts to expand transportation options.

4. Review and discuss goals from completed municipal plans:

- a. **Compare with initial draft of work group goals.**
- b. **Identify goals to add to county plan.**
- c. **Identify topics/goals not addressed by municipalities or work groups.**

Work group attendees and facilitators agreed that this topic/discussion would be undertaken at the next meeting.

5. Set next meeting date.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Location: Door County Planning Department Conference Room, Third Floor, 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay, WI

6. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by Mariah Goode and Becky Kerwin, Door County Planning