

**Town of La Pointe Planning and Zoning
Town Plan Commission Special Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2014**

Town Plan Commission (TPC) Members Present: Ted Pallas, Chair, Charles Brummer, Vice-Chair, Mike Starck, Greg Thury, Suellen Soucek, Margie Denton (6).

Town Plan Commission members absent: Joan Martin.

Public Present: Paul Brummer.

Town Staff Members Present: Lisa Potswald, Planning and Zoning Administrator (1).

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

II. Public Comment

Paul Brummer states that if the Town intends to extend the dock as part of the Joni's Beach improvements, the Town should make certain that it is built to allow for washthrough to minimize impact on beaches in the area, and that the Town obtain the necessary permits prior to beginning the work.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

a. Town Plan Commission Regular Monthly Meeting, August 6, 2014.

G. Thury moves to approve the Town Plan Commission Special Monthly Meeting minutes of August 6, 2014 as amended. S. Soucek seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

IV. Zoning Administrator's Report

Report for the month of August 2014 is distributed.

V. Consideration and/or Action of Permit Applications

None presented.

VI. New Business

a. Rental Complaint – 2427 Benjamin Blvd.

The Town received a complaint from a renter at 2427 Benjamin Boulevard. Ashland County was informed and the property was inspected within 2 days of the complaint. The complaint was determined to be unfounded, and is now resolved.

b. Joni's Beach Improvements – Grant

The Town intends to apply for a Coastal Management grant to make improvements to Joni's Beach. A public meeting was held on September 2 at Joni's Beach to gather input on what amenities people want to see at the Beach. The notes from this meeting were distributed to the TPC.

Based on that meeting Town Foreman Kristian Larsen put together a list of amenities he is proposing for Joni's Beach for the TPC to review. TPC comments are as follows:

- **Replace the roof on the bathroom.** (this should have been done 10 years ago)

The TPC agrees this should have been done previously and supports replacing the roof.

- **Construct a slightly larger pavilion by the parking lot (where the current playground is). This will do two things: 1) move the kids away from the parking lot. 2) allow easier access from the parking lot for the picnickers**

The TPC supports keeping the improvements simple. Some members questioned the need to move the Pavilion and playground. Others suggested moving the Pavilion away from the beach and closer to the sidewalk to improve access.

- **Keep the grills and maybe add one or two more**

TPC members suggest the existing grills also be replaced. It was mentioned that there are multiple wheelchair accessible tables at the Town Park, and that possibly one could be relocated to Joni's Beach.

- **Relocate the playground to the foot print of the existing pavilion (If money was available replace the playground)**

See comments above regarding moving the location. Some members support replacing the existing equipment, but understand it is very expensive to do so. Others feel what is there works fine.

- **Add a swing set to the playground area (we have the old school's set at the shop)**

The TPC supports this.

- **Improve access to the dock allowing a wheelchair to roll on**

The TPC supports this and comments that the deck of the dock needs to be maintained.

- **Extend the dock to allow more boats and easier docking**

The TPC wants to make sure that what is there has regular maintenance and repair.

- **Fill in the low spots in the lawn to try and prevent puddles (fall 2014)**

The TPC supports this but doesn't think the DNR will allow a lot of fill. Difficulties with building the bathrooms up was referenced in this discussion

- **Diagonal parking along Main St. which I think is a good idea but I don't think it will happen in the near future due to finances.**

There are problems with water drainage in that area – often water lays in that location. This would have to be addressed if this project was to go forward.

- **The possibility of making the existing Artisan well more user friendly by having a fountain by the bathrooms that could be easily accessed by driving up to it, much like they have in Ashland or Washburn. I love this idea as there are many locals/visitors that don't have a good water source and Joni's would allow a great location for such.**

TPC members like this idea, but reference the expense of putting in a driveway and/or replumbing the well to another location.

- **Horseshoe pits (2)**

The TPC does not support this amenity, citing safety concerns.

Other comments include:

- Bathrooms are old and often dirty. Should consider a hand dryer rather than paper towels
- Keep upgrades to Joni's Beach simple
- Cleats needed for the dock
- Signs on the dock needed to indicate rules, swimming area, etc.

VII. Old Business

a. Fire Numbers

ZA previously distributed memo to Town Board and TPC regarding completing Phase I of the fire number project, which is inputting all Island fire numbers via GPS into the Ashland County data system. The next steps will be to develop/update policies and procedures for numbering. Many of the existing fire numbers have been assigned inconsistently. Ashland County will be sending a map of all numbers for the Town to review and correct where needed. ZA will keep the TPC informed as to progress on this project.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

None identified at this point.

IX. Schedule Future Meetings

The meeting scheduled for September 17 is canceled. The next meeting will be held on October 1.

X. Adjournment

G. Thury moves to adjourn. S. Soucek seconds. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting ends at 5:03 pm.

Town Plan Commission minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Potswald, Planning and Zoning Administrator, on Thursday, September 11, 2014.