

**BEAVER ISLAND JOINT PEAINE & ST. JAMES TOWNSHIPS PLANNING
COMMISSION**

JOINT MEETING AGENDA FOR MAY 9, 2022 AT 2:00PM PRINT SHOP CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

KICK OFF FOR MASTER PLAN REVIEW

Peaine Township Members Present: Krysl Lyle, Bill Markey, Vicki Smith, Angel Welke, and Dan Burton

St. James Members Present: Lori Taylor-Blitz, Bob Tidmore, Beth Croswhite, and Mark Engelsman

Members on the call: Nathan Altman (Zoom)

Absent: Paul Cole, Marcy Dean

Presenters: - LIAA, Barry Hicks- LIAA, Heather Seyfarth – LIAA (Phone), Leah Manard (LIAA)

Public Attendees: Shelby Harris, Bob Sramek, George Broder, Cynthia Johnson, Seamus Norgaard

2:00PM **CALL TO ORDER** – Lori Taylor-Blitz with Bill Markey establishing a quorum for both townships. Taylor-Blitz then
Called to order and introduced LIAA – Barry Hicks.

2:10PM **PRESENTATION BY LIAA –BARRY HICKS** – Introduced Heather Seyfarth and Leah Manard, new to LIAA. Housekeeping –
Notice to be posted for intent to Master Plan. The Notice for Intent to Master Plan will be published in the Petoskey News Review on May 10, 2022 with letters mailed to utilities and transportation entities Economic Development Plan and rezoning coordinating with Paul Cole, Chamber of Commerce.

Survey Monkey review/discussion of LIAA’s 5-questions. We are not doing a complete update of the 2017 Master Plan, just an update to the 2017 plan. (Refer to PowerPoint presentation)
Changing conditions and circumstances are addressed here:

1. Placemaking: Create a sense of place and belonging to the community. Capitalize on what we have. Business Opportunities. Identity. Branding – benches and signs. How to balance economic development with natural resources. Pursue funding for grants. Health Care needs, Broadband technology and internet and affordable housing. Dark Sky. Coastal Dynamics – Water trails, coastline retention, water levels. There is data collected from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding water level trends 15-20 year cycles.
2. Strengthen the master plan – Achievable and attainable shared vision for the island. Grant Funding. Accessibility. Sharing communication with other island communities; Great Lakes Island Alliance (GLIA) and Northern Lake Michigan Islands (NLMIC).. Affordable Collaborative. Housing is a major concern for employees, workforce and visitors. Internet updated to fiber/stability/speed. At present the focus is in the areas where need is greatest. Get more broadband consortium information to LIAA, along with Information from Maine Institute, GLIA and NLMIC. Health Care and Transportation improvements (roads). Two categories of Transportation: On and off the island by plane or ferry and the county roads on the island. Transportation Authority – Survey has been sent. Rental cars and Transit Bus. Coastal Management piece in the plan.
3. Changes on the island – Rental and seasonal residents, younger population, work, reliable internet, age in place. Demographics Are changing. Light pollution. Attainable and reasonable goals. What can be achieved with the resources we have. Longer range plans for the future. Unity between the island organizations. Grant funding is dependent on what the immediate needs are for the island. Economic Development and Capital Improvement to be researched for need.
4. Improvements needed on the island; Housing, dentistry, physical therapy, counseling, fitness, services, maintenance building trades, transfer station (single stream), resiliency partnerships, Alternative power sources. New residents with younger population. Providing services to all demographics. Pandemic was a contributing factor in change. Review residential housing pricing
5. To Improve: Recap of the above comments. Beaver Island Historical Society – Cultural management. Inclusion of the archipelago of outer islands which are part of St. James Township. Dark Sky update light pollutions. Electrical Power generation improvement and increase. Renewable energy. Zoning updates

regarding high water with new building construction. Use of Kahoot interactions to get public comments in real time.

Homework for next meeting with LIAA: 1. Vision Statement. 2. Guiding Principles. 3. Pages 126-134.

Timeline: Redefined: Public Open House (In person) Virtual Public survey. Volunteers to help with open house 3-4 people. Chart with Tasks assigned. (refer to PowerPoint).

Public Comment (Limit 2 minutes) Norgaard – Community solar and sustainability. Sramek: Coast dynamics on inland lakes as well and Outer archipelago islands. Will Coastal Management grant cover delving into those coast lines? This may be part of a Zoning Audit.

Inland lakes: DNR, EGLE, US Fish and Wildlife, SHPO, Tribes, Watershed Council.

Agenda: Timeline, Homework, Approval of Minutes (3)

3:30PM

Motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT Peaine Motion by Welke, 2nd by Lyle

St. James Motion by Lori Taylor-Blitz 2nd by

Croswhite Motion Carries

NEXT JOINT MEETING: MAY 23, 2022 @ 3:30PM Peaine Township Hall.