

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

JOINT MEETING AGENDA FOR September 19, 2022 AT 3:30PM PRINT SHOP CONFERENCE
ROOM

MINUTES

MASTER PLAN REVIEW

Peaine Township Commissioners Present: Krys Lyle, Bill Markey, Vicki Smith
(quorum)

St. James Township Commissioners Present: Lori Taylor-Blitz, Paul Cole, Juli
Runberg, Beth Croswhite, and Mark Engelsman (Quorum)

Virtual Attendees on Zoom: Gina Mangra, Seamus Norgaard,

Absent Township Commissioners: Angel Welke, and Dan Burton

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

Public Attendees: Shelby Harris, Kevin Boyle, Jim Flanagan, Bobbi Welke, Louis
Post, Mike Finn, Cynthia Johnson

Chair, Lori Taylor-Blitz called the meeting to order at 3:35PM. A quorum is present
for both townships.

Dick Mulvihill: presenting out of order. BIA is asking for the support of the
townships for getting broadband fiber to the home. There is a need for support
from the entire community. This is the largest broadband funding by the
government. BIA needs application for the unserved areas. Refer to handouts.
Refer to BIA Docs Broadband, BEAD Cliff Notes 1 and 2.

LIAA: Barry Hicks Online survey. In person house engagement. Review action
plan. 5 new topic areas. Summarize data. **Refer to the Power point highlights.**

Coastal Sustainability Assessment: Provided by EGLE Coastal Management
Program. Water quality and current zoning ordinance. Lee Manard: Ref. to
PowerPoint Coastal Zone. Benchmarks to reach. Pam Grassmick assessment point
of contact. Mapping and data collection. Critical facilities and infrastructure,
Disaster mitigation plan is outdated, education for bluff and ravine plan,

Professional training/education for the planning process. Should setbacks be increased due to a rise in water levels.

Demographics: 161 total participants. Online survey: 79 In Person: 65. **Refer to PowerPoint**

Recurring Themes: Barry – retaining the character of the island. Primary 31%, Affordable housing 23%, Energy Independence 17% (Solar 7%/Wind 5%), Broadband 17%? Trails 16%, ATV 9% Non motorized 5%, Dark Sky 8%, Health Care 8%, Fire hazard 7%, Outer Islands 6%

Barry Hicks: Refer to **PowerPoint Document**. Online responses were more complete. Content hard to view in the room.

October 17th meeting to review the Raw data and the PowerPoint. Top goals Objectives (replace action items). A draft plan would occur after this meeting. Agreement on priorities from both planning commissions, Goals and Objectives. Raw data will be shared. Taylor-Blitz summarized - Homework: Go through the summary and outline. Which are the top priorities (define what they are).

Matt Cowell: For more than a year LIAA has been working with BIATA. Lack of maintenance. Lack of designated trails, county roads or two-tracks. Complicating factors is land owned by DNR and private ownership. Coordinating needs with DNR indicating State land; shape and structure. March 2021. State and Tribal and stakeholders were represented. Mountain biking primary. Trail dedication. Balancing with rare flora, private property needs and the needs of the state. \$3000 from each township. There needs to be a Dedicated plan. Where the trails would and would not go. Critical to have support from Townships. Regular interaction between BIATA and Townships. Planning Commissions would be the most natural interaction. Trail plan would be separate and **not** part of the Master Plan. DNR is willing to work with Beaver Island. Grant requests. Request for a preliminary plan to include with the Master Plan. NLMIC (Northern Lake Michigan Islands Collaborative) is involved at the State level. Wildlife Division. Markey requested a summary be included in the Master Plan.

Louis Post: Asking for support and representation from each Planning Commission (adhoc member from each township)

Motion by Cole St. James Township. Move the work plan to the Township Board for discussion and decide how to move forward, 2nd Mark Engelsman. 5 Ayes. Unanimous Approval.

Motion by Bill Markey; 2nd by Vicky Smith

For the Peaine Township Planning Commission to recommend to Peaine Township Board of Trustees to approve the Beaver Island Archipelago Trails Association work plan and to support the Beaver Island Archipelago Trails Association directly and the creation and adoption of a Beaver Island Trails Comprehensive plan. Motion carries 3-0 Unanimous Approval.

Motion by Bill Markey, 2nd by Vicky Smith, for the Peaine Township Planning Commission to recommend to the Peaine Township Board of Trustees to write a letter of support to Beaver Island Archipelago Trails Association to add to their applications for grants and alternative funding for the creation of a Beaver Island Comprehensive Trail Plan. Motion carries 3-0, Unanimous Approval

Dick Mulvihill – BIA is working on a housing project. The request is that both townships provide \$2000 for a proposal market survey and create a housing authority. By Community Resource Services. **Refer to BIA Documents**

Motion St. James township (Croswhite) to recommend to the Twp Board determine if they would support for a workplace housing and consider a housing committee recommend a survey to Add BIA (Joint) 2nd Runberg 5 ayes. Unanimous Approval. **Refer to BIA Housing doc.**

Motion by Peaine (Markey) to recommend to the Peaine Township Board approval for contributing \$2000 to BIA to pay for the housing market survey and to create a joint township committee for housing 2nd by Smith 3 Ayes. Unanimous Approval.

Paul Cole is encouraged that the townships can work together to move things forward on many island issues.

Public Comment: Seamus Norgaard noted the Energy segment of Open House survey was 17% and a Meeting on Wednesday (9/21). Reminder for the 10:00AM ETIPP Zoom Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT Peaine Motion by Markey, 2nd by Lyle
St. James Motion by Lori Taylor-Blitz, 2nd by Croswhite Motion Carried
Adjourned at 5:27PM

