

**BEAVER ISLAND JOINT PEAINE & ST. JAMES TOWNSHIPS
PLANNING COMMISSION**
JOINT MEETING AGENDAS FOR JULY 7, 2023 AT 8:00AM
BEAVER ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING

Peaine Township Members Present: Krys Lyle, Bill Markey, Vicki Smith, Angel Welke, Dan Burton (quorum)

St. James Members Present: Paul Cole, Juli Runberg, Mark Engelsman, Vic Van Deventer, Cynthia Pryor, Beth Croswhite (Quorum)

Absent: Lori Taylor-Blitz (St. James)

Public Attendees: Shelby Harris, Pam Grassmick, Karen Whitcraft, Ed Salveter, Gena Manga, Sheri Richards

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Angel Welke called the Public Hearing for the Beaver Island Master Plan 2023 to order at 8:02 AM. A quorum was established for both townships Welke opened public comment to the joint planning commission for discussion.

- II. **Public Comment:** Lyle mentioned the early morning email sent which included additional comments sent by Bob Anderson and Kiersten Stark – Charlevoix County Planning Department. Pryor asked if the planning team was satisfied with the product produced by LIAA. Lyle stated no, since LIAA did not meet the specifications of the agreement. Markey asked that the current comments and the spreadsheet comments be adopted as an Errata to the appendix, he would be satisfied. Welke mentioned the intention of the planning commissions to work together with the master plan and recreation plans over the next year. Smith stated agreement with continue joint meetings. Peaine will be doing their own recreation plan to alleviate any confusion with grants submissions. Lyle mentioned the conversation with LIAA offering a match grant opportunity to finish the master plan. Pryor asked if they have honored the contract/agreement. Smith mentioned our disappointment with the plan they have given to the commissions. Should the plan be accepted with an explanation/verbiage regarding our dissatisfaction with the plan? Should we fight for the corrections we have

submitted along with the photo editing? Englesman stated the errors that have been submitted should be part of the final document, in the main text. Croswhite raised the issue of having the corrections as an addendum and not part of the plan would be awkward if there was a need to flip back and forth, losing continuity of the text. Smith asked if this is a working document that we could make corrections ourselves? Englesman mentioned if we make any text changes other than grammatical the plan would have to go through another public hearing. Pryor mentioned we need to keep working to get this right so we have a working document that the public can view on our website, which shows our intent for improvements and seeking grants for projects. Cole mentioned not dragging this out longer.

Open Public Comment:

Grassmick – Agrees with Cole’s suggestion of having the edits to the main document without having to refer to an addendum for cross referencing. Grassmick mentioned the cost of our original plan at \$100,000 in a grant from the Office of Great Lakes, and that across Michigan most businesses producing master plans are charging \$50,000 as a going rate. Water quality, is becoming a huge issue whether it be inland lakes or the Great Lakes. For EGLE grants there needs to be mention in the master plan to apply.

Harris – Need for mention of the docks at the marina. In order to pursue grants in the future there should be language in the document reflecting the need. Matt Preisser (EGLE) was going to provide language regarding the sustainable ferry transport. We are awaiting the language from Preisser. Harris will follow up.

Mangra – maps for trails are incorrect and need to be updated. Two DNR positions have not been filled and therefore updates have been slow until the new hires are in place. comments,

Slaveter – Water trails should include inland lakes. Harris mentioned the need for washing stations at all inland lakes where watercraft are launched.

MOTION: Welke, to adjourn the public hearing by Peaine Township, 2nd by Markey. Roll call: Markey, Lyle, Burton, Smith and Welke 5-Ayes

MOTION: Englesman: to adjourn the public hearing by St. James Township, 2nd by Pryor, 6- ayes.

III. Adjournment: Welke Closed the Public Hearing at 8:26AM

Respectfully submitted,

Krys Lyle
Peaine Township Planning Commission
Secretary

MINUTES

JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

- I. **CALL TO ORDER at 8:26AM** –Markey called the joint meeting to order with a **MOTION** by Markey for Peaine Township Planning Commission for recommendation to the Peaine Township Board the approval by resolution the Beaver Island Master Plan 2023 with conditions that public comments be included in the main body of the Master Plan document, 2nd by Lyle Roll Call: Markey-Aye, Lyle-Aye, Burton-Aye, Smith-Aye and Welke- Aye 5-Ayes Unanimous support.

Public Comment: Sheri Richards asked if the additions will be circulated before the master plan is adopted? Yes, the additions will be made public. Grassmick suggested the statutory steps be made public so people are aware of the process. **MOTION** by Markey to close public comment, 2nd by Lyle. All in favor of closing the public comment. 5- Ayes

MOTION: Englesman called the St. James meeting to order. **MOTION** by Cole for St. James Township Planning Commission for recommendation to the St. James Township Board the approval by resolution the Beaver Island Master Plan 2023 with conditions that public comments be included in the main body of the Master Plan document, 2nd by Croswhite.

Public Comment: Croswhite asked if we are accepting all the comments?

Welke: All comments will be accepted as part of the final document, either as an appendix or incorporated into the document text. Maps have many errors. Grassmick suggested adding a column indicating accuracy of the comments. The pictures have not been added to the document. Pryor asked if approval can be made with conditions. Cole feels the accuracy of the comments should be reviewed in order to make inclusion to the master plan document. Croswhite wants clarification of the legal standing for how to complete this correctly. The boards will need to make the decision. Runberg does not believe it can be approved as it stands. Harris, has no confidence in LIAA. The document has been reviewed four times. Approve with conditions and let the board make the decision. Smith asked if we can have

access to the document files that are retained by LIAA. The outer islands are a concern since they are not clearly identified in the plan. Pryor stated that the commissions should obtain the LIAA document and the ability to make changes without paying further dollars. MOTION by Pryor that we recommend to the township board that we approve on condition that we obtain the LIAA document with the ability to make updates before publishing and that all pictures and maps be updated and all public comments are reviewed for inclusion. 2nd by Cole. Roll Call: Paul Cole-Aye, Juli Runberg-Aye, Mark Engelsman-Aye Vic Van Deventer-Aye, Cynthia Pryor- Aye, Beth Croswhite-Aye. 6 Ayes. Motion carries. Unanimous support.

- II. **Adjournment:** MOTION Peaine Markey Welke 2nd Motion carries
MOTION St. James Englesman 2nd Cole Motion carries
Adjourned at 8:53AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Krys Lyle
Recording Secretary Master Plan