

DRAFT Meeting Notes

Town of Greenville

Land Stewardship/AEA Committee

Tuesday, 8 May 2018 (5:00 pm)

Greenville Town Hall

Present: Larry Bentle, Michael Brown (Town representative), Sarah Grotjan, Dave Johnson, John Julius, Steve Nagy and Pete Schroeder.

Next Meeting: **17 July 2018, Tuesday (5:00 pm at the Town Hall)**

1. Call to order. 5:04 pm.
2. Approval of 10 April 2018 meeting minutes. Approved as written (motion by Steve, 2nd by Dave).
3. Goals and Solicitation letter, (status at town board). On 14 May 2018 our 3-year Strategic Plan (adopted by our committee at our February meeting) and our solicitation/donation letter will be on the Town Board agenda for their comment. Larry had presented these two documents to the Board on 9 April for their review and approval
 - a. Goal prioritization to initiate. Our Strategic Plan goals should now be reviewed periodically to determine progress.
4. Committee by-laws (latest updated draft), review and approval (Steve). By-law Draft 5 was presented showing all input/comments of prior edits. It was reviewed briefly (not many changes from previous draft #4). A motion was made to approve draft 5 (motion by Pete, 2nd by Dave). The motion passed unanimously.
 - a. **Steve** agreed to clean up the draft and send to us and also to the Town Hall for distribution and filing, as appropriate.
5. LS/AEA.
 - a. Committee account status. No change in account balance (\$868) from our 10 April meeting.
 - b. Signage. Places for new AEA signage were discussed, such as along North Road and at the Gun Club on BB. Pete suggested to possibly use existing funds to erect one sign and request landowners for donations for additional signs as appropriate. Our solicitation letter could be distributed at the Fall Fair and Cat Fish Races.
 - c. Hwy 15 corridor & Town incorporation, status (Michael). Nothing new. New World Ford will be present at the 14 May Town Board mtg. for consideration of their construction plan. The Hortonville annexation request by All World Ford has been withdrawn.

Greenville's application to incorporate as a village has been submitted to circuit court.

- d. Expansion of our AEA? We discussed the possibility of enlisting other landowner participants to enable expansion of our present AEA to reach further toward the Steinacker home farm. John also suggested the farmed acreage on the northeast corner of the Hwy 96 - Julius Dr. intersection. Dave said that this latter area was possible, but would require an update to our Town/County plan. Contacting the landowner(s) would be the first step.
6. Community Ag education.
 - a. HASD. No significant change from last month. The FVTC donated, hoop house (greenhouse) at the high school is operational.
 - b. Plans for school and other. Steve reported that more conversation is needed to determine if his 2 acres will be utilized by HASD in a similar manner as their pumpkin patch last year.
7. Land preservation (discussion).
 - a. There is currently no land trust in our area at this time. Deborah Nett of the NE Wisconsin Land Trust would like help on their committee to create an Ag land trust in their organization. This is likely the most plausible route to create a land trust provider for our area.
 - b. John contacted the Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust prior to our meeting for information concerning the establishment and current status of their land trust (see details in Attachment I)
8. Town Comprehensive Plan.
 - a. The Town will be updating its Comprehensive Plan beginning soon with the intent to have it completed by end 3Q18. Our committee should be active in providing input to this update. To this end, Michael handed out a form for input on Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats that Greenville has for planning future land use. Returned information will be used to update the Comprehensive Plan on how Greenville will regulate its growth.
 - b. Please watch for other opportunities to provide feedback and help in this planning effort.
9. Next meeting. **17 July at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall**
10. Adjournment. 6:37 pm meeting adjourned

Parking lot for future meeting(s):

- a) Web site.
- b) PDR & TDR.

Attachment I
(LS notes, 8 May 2018)

To: Land Stewardship Committee, Greenville
From: John Julius

Date: 7 May 2018

Subj: Phone conversation with Tom Stolp, Exec. Director, Ozaukee/Washington Land Trust (OWLT) on 7 May 2018. (Ph: 262-338-1794 (www.owlt.org)).

1. Wisconsin has 50+ land trusts whereas Minnesota has 3. Some advantages exist by way of the larger land trust size in Minnesota.
2. OWLT has 3 easements on working dairy farms and 6 easements on farmland. In one case they purchased the development rights.
 - a. One bachelor farmer had previously put easements on an initial 250 acres. Last month he approached OWLT to add another 200 acres. The transaction is not yet complete, but is in progress.
3. OWLT is now 26 years old. They have established 32 preserves within the counties of Ozaukee and Washington. DNR grants provided for a large part of the funding to accomplish this. OWLT works with the Milwaukee Metro Sewage District in partnership with the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) for several reasons. This partnership provides substantial grant money. They established the Great Rivers Great Lakes Program, which is a land acquisition program. They receive some state funding in addition to the federal grants.
4. Tom said it takes a lot of “shoe leather” to do the work they do and acquire the funding. In 4 years they raised \$1.1M of local support, which was then matched with \$6M in state and federal support funding.
5. It costs approximately \$8000 per easement to establish an easement regardless of easement size.