

# ICC Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2016

UW-Extension, Jefferson County Office, Jefferson, WI

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Russell Kottke, Chairman, at 9:30 a.m.

## Certification of Open Meeting Notices

The Secretary confirmed that the requirements of the WI Open Meeting Law were met.

## Adoption of the Agenda

Approved by Chair after consent by members.

## Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Jefferson County, seconded by Columbia County to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2016 meeting.

## Reports from Visiting Legislative Officials -- None

## Update on County Issues-Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA)

Wisconsin Counties Association, Jon Hochkammer reported on several WCA legislative topics:

- Kitty Rhoades passed away (DHFS Director)
- Legislative priorities looked at via steering committees convened by WCA. Steering Committee makes recommendations to WCA Board.
- Shoreland Zoning Task Force formed by WCA is starting its work, and is looking into:
  - Prior legislation
  - Changes made by legislature
  - Recommendations
- A special ICC meeting on UW Extension reorganization (nEXT Generation Reorganization) will be held on July 27, 2016 in Dodge County; an Agenda for this meeting was handed out by Chair Kottke; there was discussion about this special meeting:
  - Invite faculty from each County Extension Office, Extension Committee chairs and members
  - Important to hear about “values” around County Extension
  - John Hochkammer-very important to hear about implications to budgets for County Extension offices
  - Marty Krueger-wants this to be productive
  - Russ Kottke: concerned that not enough county officials on the planning work groups
  - Concerned about not hearing from the County perspective on these work groups
  - John Hochkammer- All work groups/committees have been appointed, but the process is about a month behind; there is an opportunity to make some significant changes by County leaders
  - Follow-up by each County: Email Jeff Hoffman on the number of County officials who will be attending from your county
- Implications for regularly scheduled July ICC meeting: The topic of transportation that had been scheduled for the July ICC meeting will be bumped to August and will be held in Green Lake.

## **Program: The State of Planning in Wisconsin: Current Topics and Issues**

### **Presented by: Professor Brian Ohm, UW Madison/Extension, Department of Urban and Regional Planning**

- Getting ready to update comprehensive plans
  - Many folks are new to planning
  - Smart Growth Law (Comprehensive Planning Act of 1999) adopted in 1999
  - Prior to law, less than 1/3 of local government had a “land use plan” (Map from 1999 illustrated this)
  - Land use had become big issue
  - Needed a definition of a comprehensive plan
  - Prior: citizen participation not required
- Many organizations were involved in establishing the Smart Growth Law: Involved consensus building.
- 1999 Smart Growth Law in a nutshell
  - Definition of a comprehensive plan is described
  - Citizen participation is required
  - Consistency is required
  - Contained a framework with 9 elements (Land Use Element, Housing Element, Transportation Element, etc.)
  - Should be a “bottom-up” process
- Current Map: shows that most towns and counties now have comprehensive plans as of 2014
  - 66 of 72 counties have submitted completed comprehensive plans
  - 1466 cities/villages/towns have had plans submitted
  - 7 regional plans have been submitted
- Still a few hold-out counties (6)--- they are reluctant to do a plan
- Using the Comprehensive Plan
- Updating the Plan: What the Law Says
  - Need to update no less than once every 10 years
  - Don't have to use the same process as the jurisdiction's first comprehensive plan: does not need to be as “daunting” as their first plan
- What is meant by an “update”
  - Can be amendments
  - May be major changes, minor changes, tweaks or other changes
  - Can be defined in the “implementation” element
  - Jefferson County also has an “Amendment Section” in the implementation element
  - The law does not require a total remake of the prior comprehensive plan
  - May include “affirmation” of what was in the prior plan that is still meaningful and providing important guidance.
  - Update does require a “public participation plan”
- Why Update Plans?
  - Evaluate current plan- What is working? What is not?
  - What are current issues and areas of emphasis? What is new vision and strategies?
- Other implications that influence update
  - State Legislation (Examples), Court Findings, or New Rules
    - Wisconsin Act 391 (2015): on “development moratorium” and on “conditional use permits”
    - Reed vs. Tour of Gilbert: on sign code.

- Federal Fair Housing Act- Texas Dept. of Housing vs Inclusive Community Projects, Inc : on notion of “unintentional discrimination” ; counties may need to think more about housing in plan updates
  - HUD has a new rule on Affirmative Further Fair Housing (AFFH) Rule
- Shoreland Zoning
  - 2015 Wisconsin Act 55: eliminated county ability to do things different (more restrictive) than State
    - DNR working with counties of address these changes
    - Will be on-going efforts
- Large Scale Livestock Operations
  - 2004 Livestock Siting Law
  - Applies when a farm has 500 animals or more
  - May be some legislative actions to further restrict local action
  - Planning for Agriculture
    - Local government can adopt ag zoning districts
      - (i.e. Large scale district, small scale districts, general districts, other)
- Town and County Relations
  - Wisconsin was first state in nation to adopt rural zoning (town and country zoning relationships in 1930s)
  - We now have special and general zoning
  - Significant variety in town vs county zoning throughout Wisconsin
  - Relies on a County-Town partnership
  - Legislation authorized new provisions in Waukesha & Dane Counties
  - A lot of this relies on having good relationships

#### Rob Klotz-Jefferson County

- Meets with Towns Organization four times per year
- Jefferson County Interests and Priorities:
  - Update of county comprehensive plan by 2020
  - Farmland preservation plan update by 2022
  - Goal-merge in the same cycle of plan update
  - Interest in emphasizing a new transportation element as part of the plan update
  - Would like one County plan that hits all 3 updates (Comprehensive Plan, Farmland Preservation Plan, Transportation Element)

#### Steve Nass-Jefferson County

- Elected in 1998 and ran on the importance of comprehensive planning
- Can be painful but also rewarding
- Concerns: constant legislative changes of State; wants to tie hands of counties
- Challenges are now between cities and towns
- Transition Zones have helped
- Survey: Polled the citizens; don't want Jefferson County to be like Waukesha County

### Sauk County

- Only ICC County to have planning staff; did their own comprehensive plan in-house (County, City, Town, Village)
- Wonder: Should they continue to do the update for the cities/villages in Sauk County
- Where should County planning efforts be focused: town/village plan updates or special topics like “placemaking” (or other initiatives).

### Other County Issues Related to Planning

- There are challenges in Dodge County because of the variety of way on how town zoning is handled. (Development community very concerned because of inconsistency among the towns.)

### Adjournment

Adjourned by Chair at 11:50 a.m.

### ICC Participants

Refer to sign-in sheet (attached).

Respectfully submitted by,

Steve Grabow  
Professor and Community Development Educator  
Jefferson County UW-Extension