

Beverly Shores Plan Commission Minutes

February 4, 2019

6:30 P.M.

1. The meeting of the Beverly Shores Plan Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Beverly Shores Community House. Members of the Plan Commission present were Brian O'Neil, Gabrielle Biciunas, Donna Norkus, Thomas Weber, and Brian Quealy. Members Greg Lyman and John Daraska were not in attendance.
2. Review of previous meeting minutes. Minutes of the December 3, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Weber moved to accept, Norkus seconded. Motion passed.
3. Old Business

- a. Comprehensive Plan Discussion

Commission discussed ideas to include in the review of the Comprehensive Plan, including:

Discussion of an economic development plan for the commercial district along Highway 12.

Reimagining the commercial district – what does the town want it to be?

Limitations of septic systems in the commercial district.

Possibility of bringing sanitary sewer from Michigan City to Broadway.

Enhancement of the intersection of Broadway and Highway 12 – safety issues.

Helping seasonal businesses become established.

Impacts of the Double-Track project on the commercial district.

Impact of the possible change from National Lakeshore to National Park and how Beverly Shores may be able to gain from that.

Discuss allowing more visitor parking areas within the town. Coordinate with NPS. Bird Town designation, but no temporary parking spaces for birders.

Discussion of the future of the BSVFD.

Establish a timeline for Comprehensive Plan review, drafting and finalization.

Need local participation in the census process. Have a member of the Plan Commission contact the Census Bureau representative and find out how we can become involved. See if residents could be involved.

Consider a septic system inspection and maintenance plan for the town. County may soon require septic inspection prior to property sales.

Action Items:

Brian Quealy: Investigate concept of sanitary sewer system with Michigan City Public Works.

Donna Norkus: Investigate how many parcels of land are available along Highway 12 in the commercial district. Look into what the potential tax base could be from development of these parcels based on taxes paid by existing businesses.

Brian O'Neil: Use the Porter County on-line Sidwell Map to make a map of the town, determine how many houses and vacant properties of suitable size are in town. Possibly build a GIS layered map to collect and store data to be collected through the CP review project.

Greg Lyman: Develop a schedule for reviewing, revising and finalizing the Comprehensive Plan.

Gabrielle Biciunas: Investigate the Double Track project to document the proposed schedule for construction and how construction may impact the town.

Tom Weber: Investigate mobility issues associated with the Broadway/Highway 12 intersection – sidewalks, pedestrian crossing lights, cross walk, etc.

Team: Review topics discussed in the last three meetings to come up with subjects for a town survey to present to town residents later this year or next.

Brian O'Neil: Save all meeting minutes to the shared drive, including draft minutes of this meeting, so members may access to review previous discussion points.

4. Commissioner Norkus moved to adjourn the meeting, Quealy seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.