

PLANNING, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Monday, October 4, 2010

Administrative Center – Room 3220

4:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Meyer, Don Bina, Beverly Mach, Dennis Manthei, Marilyn Pedretti, Tina Wehrs

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bob Keil

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steven Miller

STAFF & GUESTS: Jeff Bluske, Bryan Meyer, Gregg Stangl, Charlie Handy, Margaret Norden, Nate Sampson, Steve O'Malley, Gary Ingvalson, Mary Powell, Mary Meehan-Strub, Cheryl McBride

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Don Meyer called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 30, 2010

MOTION by Manthei/Pedretti to approve the Minutes from August 30, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** Keil excused; Miller absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

SUPERVISOR CONFERENCE REPORTS

Bev Mach reported on the WCA conference workshop she attended on the role of the real property lister. Tina Wehrs reminded the committee about the Complete Streets workshop on Tuesday, October 5, 2010. Don Bina reported on the state RC&D meeting.

UW-EXTENSION WRITTEN REPORTS

Mary Meehan-Strub provided copies of the UW-Extension newsletter and reported on their recent open house.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION BOARD ELECTIONS

Gregg Stangl reported that the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association (WLWCA) will hold elections for three Land and Water Conservation Association board positions in 2010. They are seeking candidates who are members of county land conservation committees. Candidate forms and/or resumes need to be submitted by November 5, 2010. Each county has one vote for a board position. He does not know of any candidates from the western area association of the state. The state legislature will be redefining the board powers and responsibilities.

ZONING PETITION REVISIONS

Jeff Bluske provided copies of the revised public hearing requirements that will be given to rezoning applicants. Supervisor Wehrs suggested underlining the sentence, "Your application is not complete until this confirmation is provided." The consensus of the committee was that the changes are exactly what is needed to reduce the occurrence of applicants who have not gone through the process with their town board and planning commission. **MOTION** by Manthei/Pedretti to approve the form entitled Public Hearing Requirements – Petitions to Rezone and Conditional Use Permits. **Motion carried unanimously.** Keil excused.

ORDINANCE CREATING LAND INFORMATION COUNCIL

The ordinance will establish a Land Information Council that will review priorities, needs, policies, and expenditures of the Land Information office. The eight-person council will meet on an as-needed basis. Jeff Bluske stated that the make-up of the council includes positions that are already serving on the Land Information Committee, with the exception of a realtor representative. He noted that other counties have had difficulty finding a realtor who is willing to give time to serve, but they will do the best they can to recruit a realtor member. **MOTION** by Pedretti/Wehrs to approve the Ordinance to Create S. 179 Entitled "Land Information Council" of the General Code of La Crosse County, Wisconsin. **Motion carried unanimously.** Keil excused.

2011 BUDGET REVIEW FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT REPORT TO THIS COMMITTEE

Steve O'Malley reported on budget considerations for 2011. He stated there were not a lot of changes with a "hold the line" budget. A factor that affects all departments is the new VOIP phone system that will decrease costs across the board. He reviewed departments reporting to the PRD committee as follows:

- Register of Deeds: The most significant increase in revenue has to be spent directly in relation to the Social Security number redaction project. The move to a flat fee should help to stabilize revenue. It is one of the few departments showing a positive benefit to the levy.
- Land Conservation: WLWCA dues were included at half-rate for less than full membership. There is a drop in revenue and projects being funded. They will use funds from the Land Records Fund Balance to supplement. A per acre charge could be considered in the 2012 budget depending on state budget cuts.
- UW-Extension: The horticulture education LTE position is vacant and was eliminated. With state-imposed furloughs and no salary increases since 2008, UW-Extension educators are working at less than the 2008 salary rate.
- Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program: Since they are not physically housed in the County, clerical services are not being provided by UW-Extension.
- Historic Sites Preservation Commission: A state grant is funding research on two National Register nominations.
- Zoning, Planning & Development and County Surveyor: There is not a large fee change at this time. They will see what happens with the state budget to make a decision about filling a vacant GIS position. They will continue to look at fees, demands on staff, and policy. They are trying to minimize how much they rely on the Land Records Fund in 2011.

O'Malley also spoke about inter-department charge-back as it applies to employees who split their time, and about the land records fund balance which could help meet needs.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Historic Sites Preservation ordinance revision
La Crosse Airport overlay district
FEMA update
Zoning ordinance
Complete Streets ordinance changes

RECESS

MOTION by Manthei/Pedretti to recess until the 6:00 p.m. public hearing. **Motion carried unanimously.** Keil excused. The meeting recessed at 5:25 p.m.

Approved, October 25, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder