

**McHenry County Regional Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Eldredge called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Charlie Eldredge, Chairman; RB Thompson, Ron Bauman, James McNutt, Frank Harrison, Jeremy Shaw, Nancy Schietzelt, John Jung, Dennis Dreher, Craig Hubert, Jerry Davenport and Jim Coughlin

Commissioners Absent: Tim Culbertson and Bill Swenson

Staff: SuzAnne Ehardt, Matthew Hansel and Cindy Sassaman

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

Motion by Mr. McNutt seconded by Mr. Harrison to approve the minutes of December 13, 2007 with one correction; change page 2, last paragraph under Presentations, second sentence should read, " Mr. McNutt mentioned...". All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**DIRECTORS REMARKS**

Ms. Ehardt explained that she was looking for ideas from subcommittees on what information could be put on the slides for the presentation to the County Board. Mr. Hansel will create a rough slideshow during the meeting tonight and forward the finished copy to the Commissioners via e-mail. The County Board presentation will be February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board room.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*County Board presentation/written updates* – Chairman Eldredge asked for approval of his "Dear Friends" letter. After some minor wording changes it was the consensus of the Commission the letter would be added to the website. Chairman Eldredge felt this would encourage everyone to attend the upcoming County Board presentation in February. Mr. Dreher suggested the letter be sent out via the listserv as well.

Chairman Eldredge also provided a handout where he summarized previous presentations made to the Commission. He suggested using this as his opening statement to the County Board. There were some minor suggestions of changes to his statement. He asked the Commission to review his document and e-mail

any additional comments or changes to him. The Commission decided that the beginning of the presentation could start with a map of McHenry County and then pull in maps from the surrounding counties into a slide. All changes must be made and the final version submitted to staff by January 18<sup>th</sup> to allow for copying and distribution.

From the Communications Subcommittee write up it was decided that the slides for the subcommittee would be as follows:

- Bullet points of background information
- Goals and objectives
- A list of the communication approaches

Mr. Bauman mentioned that his subcommittee has not reviewed his write up. Most of the information has been taken from the 2010 plan or other plans. The goals that are mentioned have been approved by the subcommittee and also the Planning & Development Committee. Subtopics which could be slides:

- List of who they have met with
- Map of LESA with removal of incorporated areas
- Background and farmland definition

Staff will contact Mr. Swenson for Community Character subcommittee information.

Economic Development subcommittee slides will be as follows:

- List of interviews/presentations
- Economic development issues
- Map that includes FAP420 and Rt. 20 corridor

Water Resources subcommittee slides will be as follows:

- List sections 1, 2 & 3 (from write up)
- Resource Conditions
- Issues/Threats
- Policy direction (from documents such as SW ordinance)

Staff will contact Mr. Swenson for Infrastructure subcommittee information.

Mr. Davenport previously e-mailed slides pertaining to Intergovernmental subcommittee to staff and they were presented to the Commission. The slides are as follows:

- Findings from meetings
- Municipal views (growth demands & level of exactions)
- Intergovernmental findings

After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to remove the information on school impact fees. They did not feel that information was relevant for the land use plan, but that the growth demand was very useful information. The slides as presented had a small font, the information will be pared down and a larger font will be used. The remainder of the information will be made as part of the oral presentation.

Ms. Schietzelt provided the following information for the Open Space Subcommittee.

- Natural Site map
- Open Space map (by Darrell with titles)
- Trails map(provided previously by MCCD)

Staff will add additional information from the write up.

Ms. Ehardt asked the Commission for their ideas on how to close the presentation. She suggested that Mr. Jung make the final comment to the County Board. He will remind the Board that they will be receiving a copy of the write ups prior to the meeting to allow them ample time to read and prepare any questions at their next meeting.

Ms. Schietzelt asked if the subcommittees that are related could be grouped together for the presentation i.e. Open Space, Water Resources and Ag; and Economic Development, Infrastructure, Community Character and finally end with Intergovernmental and the closing comments from Mr. Jung.

Chairman Eldredge thanked everyone for their hard work and efforts.

**New Business**

None

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Agriculture

None

Communications

None

Community Character

None

Economic Development

None

Water Resources

None

Infrastructure

None

Intergovernmental Coordination

None

Open Space & Environmental/Natural Resources

None

**MCCG**

Ms. Moller asked if there was anything the Commission wanted her to take back and share with the Council. Chairman Eldredge asked for comment on the presentation and encouraged municipalities to attend the meeting. Ms. Moller requested that a representative of the RPC speak at one of the spring MCCG meetings.

**Members Comments**

Mr. Bauman suggested reading the article on page 28, of the *Planning* magazine. The article is about traditional planning and important issues that shouldn't be forgotten.

Mr. Dreher suggested at the next meeting that Open Space and Water Resource subcommittee start with presenting their written chapters. A written copy should be provided in advance to allow for feedback. Ms. Ehardt suggested that a second meeting in addition to the regular meeting might be necessary.

Mr. Harrison brought up the issues of the McHenry County Realtors Association regarding property ownership rights. He would like a plan developed without infringing on property rights. The text of the plan must be clear because the map will become outdated. He reminded the Commission that during zoning hearings or any testimony you must be able to point to the text in the plan that allows your request. It was decided that each subcommittee will address this issue.

Mr. Bauman informed the Commission about a seminar for protecting farmland. Ms. Ehardt will be speaking at the event which will be held at ECC, February 1, and 2, 2008. Staff will send the notice to the Commission so they may sign up if interested.

Chairman Eldredge noted that he received a resignation letter from Tim Culbertson, which will allow for the Planning & Development Committee to appoint a replacement for District #1.

**Chairman's Comments:**

*Summary of Action Items*

Everyone is aware of the items that need attention to prepare for the County Board presentation.

**Additional Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Dreher, seconded by Mr. Harrison to adjourn the meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.