

July 12, 2023 Meeting of the Town of Round Lake Planning Commission

Members Present: Martin Hanson, Don Stover, Cindy Bijold, Jane Bidwell, Ginny Chabek, Ann Berlage

Minutes **Approved**

- 1) Call to order at 6:00 pm

Ann Berlage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

- 2) Approval of Agenda

Don moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Martin

- 3) Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting June 7th, 2023.

Jane moves to approve the minutes from June 2023 seconded by Don

- 4) Audience Registration and General Comments

None

- 5) Document Review: Legal Standards for Variance

Ann shared a legal document on variances with all the commission members for review. All members have reviewed and understand the document.

- 6) Action: Variance Application 23-003 John and Jeanne Skul: Construction of an attached garage & shop area with 2nd story habitable living area. Proposed expansion to be either 2' or 7' at the closest point to a wetland.

The Skuls have retired and are moving to the cabin as a permanent residence. They require additional space for year-round occupancy. They have worked with Jay to submit the variance request. Martin said that he didn't think that needing more space was considered a hardship. Questions were asked regarding the placement and capacity of the septic system. The Skuls are not sure how the septic is sized regarding the number of bedrooms it will support. There will be a wall footing below the frost line 8 inches wide by 4 feet deep at the edge of the garage closest to the wetland. Ann asked if the garage could be repaired. John explained that the living area above the garage would be needed as well as the garage space. They have been unable to find another property that fits their needs. Ginny agreed with Martin based on the legal definition of a hardship, that this didn't fit that description. Ginny added that the culvert that connects to the Lower Twin Lake is contiguous to the wetland. Cindy asked which option was being considered with this variance. John explained that both options are currently being considered.

Motion made by Martin to deny based on the evidence not supporting the unnecessary hardship and harm to public interests, and Don seconded. Don added conditional for denial 10, 11, 12. Motion Carried by unanimous vote.

- 7) Board Meeting Report – Ann Berlage

Ann attended the meeting virtually and reported on the roles assignments of new members.

Reported on cup-23-015 to approve with the addition of a natural buffer around the building
Groundwater testing report from Don

Working on mining of data with regards to creating a new survey for the Town on issues like ATV use of the Town roads.

Jane has information on Dark Skies that will be available in the Town Hall

Status on the short term rental committee, Martin and Ginny are members.

- 8) Status: CUP 23-015 Jeremy and Heidi Laures: Permit desired for an accessory building

Approved by Jim Strandlund and seconded by Don with the addition of the natural buffer.

- 9) Status: Review Sawyer County Zoning Proposed Ordinance Amendment for Multi-Dwelling Development

Denied by all of the Towns, currently no information on moving that forward.

- 10) Status: Ground and Surface Water Baseline Testing sub-committee report

- Don Stover

27 people signed up, 166 additional letters were sent to residents on 7 different roads where we don't have a lot of data. We can run longer past Labor Day if need be.

UWSP has offered a 1 mineral test for \$28 for people who want to retest for Manganese or Lead. Waiting on input from Matt on County handling fee. Committee will communicate with those that had a problem in case they want to re-test.

- 11) Status: High-Capacity Wells

Nothing to add

- 12) Discussion: Outdoor Recreation Plan

- Board discussion report – Don Stover

Board has asked LUPC to develop the plan.

- Community needs and position regarding separating trails from roads, including bike lanes, bike paths, ATV trails along side of roads.

Public involvement is needed to determine how far to take this idea. Ginny commented on reducing conflict by separating trails would be beneficial to all.

Form a preliminary out line to look at parameters to do that – reduce conflict.

Commission could brainstorm the conflict points to identify them as a starting point.

Ginny to compile an initial list. County plan is on the website. Martin to send out the link.

- 13) Discussion/Possible action: ATV/UTV issues

- Consider recommendation of Washburn County Board supported letter to State Counties Association asking for a definition of a “road safe” off road vehicle. – Ginny Chabek

Does the Commission feel that there is a need to ask for more information on the open items mentioned in the Washburn County letter?

Discussion on the items listed and additional ones. Jane said that this should be addressed at the state level.

Cindy mentioned that we could bring this forward to the Towns association.

Martin agreed utilizing the Wisconsin Towns Association, and The TORL Board to clarify which items are needed from their standpoint. Ann can ask the WTA to clarify what is needed at a state level.

- 14) Status: Dark Skies

Don sent out information to all of the lake associations in the Town and asked them to provide the information to their members.

Jane made a poster and put pamphlets in the pamphlet holder at the Town Hall providing additional

information.

15) Status: of short-term rental ordinance

Ginny was elected Chair of the County Committee. Martin is a voting member as well representing the Town. Proposal was made to regulate occupancy based on septic capacity. Next meeting later in July will provide more information on what that capacity should be based upon, commercial or residential requirements.

16) Status: Comprehensive Plan Update Element 6: Economic Development

Ann received an email from the UW extension on recent Census data.

17) Future Agenda items

Cindy wants us to look into funds that may be available for technology infrastructure at the state level. She will do the research. This has been attempted in the past and has been a difficult task, Cindy will see what we can do.

18) Schedule next meeting

August 9th. 6pm.

19) Adjourn Motion by Don, Second by Jane. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.