

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
ANNUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012
GIBRALTAR HISTORICAL TOWN HALL
4176 MAPLE STREET FISH CREEK WI 54212
7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order: Chairman Brian Merkel called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Town Board Members Present: Brian Merkel, Dick Skare, Brian Hackbarth, Steve Sohns and Karl Stubenvoll.

Approval of the Minutes: It was moved by John Young, seconded by David Harris to approve the minutes of the 2011 Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Chair Comments: Mr. Merkel introduced the Town Board members and commented that the electors determine the agenda. Mr. Merkel welcomed Kelly Murre as the town's new Administrative Assistant.

Approval of the Annual Report: Beth Hagen read the 2011 Annual Report as presented by the auditor. It was moved by Bob Spielman, seconded by Jon Neville to approve the Annual Report as presented. Motion carried.

Reports:

Gibraltar Historical Association: Barb McKesson reported the Noble House Museum was visited again by Gibraltar's third grade students on a walking tour to the waterfront. This was just one activity that local students participated in at Noble Square. Heritage Days became Heritage Week and was a great success. Thanks were given to the many volunteers, FCCA and the Town Board for continued support.

Fire Department/First Responders: Interim Fire Chief Hecht thanked the citizens and the town board for the support of the Fire Department and First Responders. Calls have trended upward by 1%. The First Responders had a successful resuscitation from a cardiac event. During the recent high wind event the station was available as an emergency shelter. The department had several marine responses. Training is continuous both locally and in coordination with other departments. In 2012 discussions will be held on several topics: In-house fire inspections, a capital improvement plan and a Northern Door Fire District. In closing, lives saved, have been credited with working smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors. Chief Hecht reminded the audience that driveway access is essential for the ability of emergency vehicles to respond and to please check for the town's clearances.

Building Committee: Karl Stubenvoll stated that previously the committee had been charged with new construction projects but has been reestablished with a maintenance and efficiency agenda. Building surveys with heating and lighting studies will take up this spring and summer seasons with requisite recommendations to the town board along the way.

Harbor: David Harris reported the harbor had a very good year. 2011 net profit is 53% over 2010. There have been no major changes at the dock. The west side of the dock has been newly sheeted. Leigh Zielke was thanked for his service on the commission. The commission welcomes its newest member Richard Hecker.

Airport: Myrv Somerhalder stated the airport was not as busy in 2011 as 2010. The self fueling system is definitely an attractant to the flying public and due to its size enables the airport to stay competitive with fuel pricing. The Master Plan was worked on in 2011 which gives an overview of possible long term projects. The Airport Layout Plan, part of the Master Plan, is required for any new construction. Beginning in 2012 Federal Grants will have a cost share of 90% Federal, 5% State and 5% Sponsor. Myrv Somerhalder researched the beginnings of the airport and shared his findings with the Ephraim and Gibraltar Historical Associations.

Jon Neville reported the "Friends of Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport" is in its 6th year. Its primary purpose is to help maintain, preserve and improve the airport. The volunteers from the Friends provided assistance for pilots

unfamiliar with self-service fueling, collected aircraft parking fees and rented cars during the hours that the office was closed. The Friends provide free wireless internet service for pilots, a courtesy van and nearly a dozen courtesy bikes.

Fish Creek Civic Association: Bob Spielman thanked the town board and the citizens of Gibraltar for their support. Over 30,000 brochures were distributed to visitors. The Fish Creek Summer Festival and Fireworks has been expanded. The model of using non-profit organizations at the Summer and Winter Festivals has raised over \$25,000 for the non-profit organizations. Over 26,000 people were served in 2011.

Door County Coastal Byways: Beth Hagen reported that the council produced and distributed 5,000 brochures and a website. In 2011 a grant was applied for and granted for an Interpretive Master Plan and kiosks. The plan was awarded over the winter to Schmeekle Reserve.

Law Enforcement: Officer Andy Crowell reported a safety program grant has been received. The programs will be put on later this year. The computer upgrades to the squad have enabled greater efficiency. The house watch program is growing.

Plan Commission: Linda Merline reported the Gibraltar Plan Commission has worked on: future public parking plans, a low cost residential well water testing program through UW Stevens Point, community center storm water upgrade and a heavy truck route. Educational materials are available in the brochure rack at the Town Center. "Best Practices" are available on the town website. Many text and zoning amendments, petitions for conditional uses and requests for variances were also heard.

Parks and Lands: Brian Hackbarth reported much of the Committee's budget was spent on removing trees that were damaged or taken down by storm damage. Gibraltar Historical Association is raising money to replant trees at Noble Square. The Committee thanks FCCA for their generous donation of the new and improved electrical box in Clark Park. Dave Bultman and his volunteers were thanked for their care of the Windmill property and their donation of trees to the property as well. A DNR forester has done a detailed evaluation of Fish Creek Park to better enable the Committee to manage the park.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Due to legislative changes in voter identification law the 2013 Annual Meeting date must be adjusted by one week. The earliest date that the 2013 meeting can be set for is Tuesday, April 16, 2013.

Jon Neville asked if there was anything new on bike trails. Brian Merkel stated the town has a resurfacing project on Hwy. 42 beginning at the bottom of the Fish Creek Hill heading north toward Sister Bay. The start date from the DOT was originally for 2012 and hence been pushed back to 2014. A discussion about the possibility of putting in public water at the same time would change the resurfacing project to a reconstruction project in the areas where public water would be located. A reconstruction project is done every 50-75 years. A "tabletop" public water feasibility study is being done to determine if public water should be explored further. There also has been basic discussion with the DNR for a multi modal path along Hwy. 42 north of the school to the town line.

Nancy Sargent asked if the town could promote and communicate a tree planting campaign to offset the storm damage that has occurred. Bob Spielman will have it promoted in the FCCA e- newsletter.

Set Next Annual Meeting: It was moved by Jon Neville, seconded by Nancy Sargent to set the next Annual Meeting for Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the historic Gibraltar Town Hall. Motion carried.

Adjourn: It was moved by John Young, seconded by Jon Neville to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hagen, Clerk