

Approved: June 27, 2017

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
PLAN COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
FISH CREEK PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN
THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017
OLD TOWN HALL
1:00 P.M.**

Call to order: The meeting of the Gibraltar Plan Commission was called to order at 1:06 P.M. by Linda Merline, chairman.

Roll Call/Quorum: Merline stated that a quorum of the Commission was present.
Members present: Linda Merline, Brian Hackbarth, Tom Blackwood, and Bob MacDonald.

Absent: James DeGroot

Also Present:

Bill Weddig

Paul McGinley, UWSP

Clay Zielke

Bob Merline

Jackson Parr

Tom Blackwood

Dorothy Riley

Colleen Riley

Gary Mc Ninch

Andrea Jauquet

David Lea

Karl Stubenvoll

Renny Lea

Wayne Kudick

Kari Hagenow

Erin Hansen

Richard Skare

Dwayne Daubner

Bon MacDonald

Barb McKesson

MaryAnn Blahnik

Steve Gomoll

Nick Legler

Marise Redmann

Ken Smith

Brian Hackbarth

Kelly Murre

Beth Hagen

Tony Fiorato

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Updates from Meeting 1:

- **Operation of Dam – Tom Meronek and Nick Legler, WDNR Fisheries Biologists** Researched history of the dam. Myles Winkler and Matt Chavez provided feedback of the dam. Approval was issued by the Public Service Commission of WI. The plan called for a 3ft head and 1-acre pond and was used to create a farm pond. It is uncertain whether initial guidelines were set on how much water needs to flow. The plans available on micro film in Madison. Current statute requires 25% of normal low flow to pass.
- Have been unable to locate fish surveys of the Creek
- Colleen Riley discovered that another dam may be up by Little Sweden with a tributary, called the Hedeem dam. Merline stated that it flows from the ski hill to their retention pond.
- -Andrea Jauquet suggested researching the Silurian beach heads.
- A grant request has been submitted for expansion of the culvert. The request is pending state approval along with the Great Lakes Restoration initiative.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

- **Known species, prevention** not an abundance of information for the creek. Kari Hagenow will provide input for the plan with wetland invasive species.
- **Discussion of Goals and Actions** – Need to inventory invasive species and outreach with property owners/volunteers.
 - o Phragmites, honeysuckle, and barberry are known invasive species within the park

Hydrology and Water Quality in Fish Creek

- **Presentation – Nancy Turyk, UWSP** – Hydrology models and water quality data was shared. The watershed was divided into 4 separate watersheds. The creek being watershed 4.
- **Discussion of Goals and Actions** – Reduce runoff and increase recharge to benefit stream flow and water quality, increase filtration
 - o Rain gardens
 - o Retention basins
 - o Rain barrels
 - o Meandering pathways
 - o Agricultural best management practices
 - Manure management
 - Fertilizer budgets/nutrient management
 - Erosion control
 - Runoff management
 - Crop rotation
 - Cover crops
 - Rotational grazing plans and fencing
 - Water sources to keep livestock out of lakes and streams

Review Goals:

- Want to increase the spawning of fish
- Spawning beyond the culvert
- Water quality - maintain current status
- Improve biotic index

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- Temperature goals - keep as cool as possible
- Maintain a natural riparian corridor
- Restoring a natural meander
- Invasive species -identify quickly
- Accessibility and education

Discuss Finalization of Plan (Steps and Timeline): Nancy Turyk will compile comments and photos to complete the plan by the end of June.

Adjourn: *Linda Merline thanked the public and adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Murre,
Deputy Clerk