

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
PLAN COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006
6:30 P.M.
GIBRALTAR COMMUNITY CENTER**

Approved 25, 2006

Call to Order: The meeting of the Gibraltar Plan Commission was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Tom Birmingham, chairman.

Members Present: Tom Birmingham, Jim Jauquet, Digger DeGroot and Linda Merline.

Members Absent: David Boyd

Others Present: Ken Harrington

Approve Minutes: It was moved by DeGroot and seconded by Merline to approve the minutes of February 22, 2006 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Discussion/Correspondence: The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2006. Bill Schuster will be presenting the sub watershed findings at the May 3rd Town Board meeting.

Outdoor Lighting Policy: Linda Merline brought information on forming a lighting ordinance and a copy of Egg Harbor's Ordinance #143. The Door County Zoning Ordinance was reviewed for lighting policy and mention of "dark skies." Ag/Natural Objective 2.3 and Cultural Resources Objective 1.2 reference minimizing and discouraging light pollution and trespass while preserving the safety of residents and visitors. Cultural Resources states that all types of lighting need to be addressed.

Jauquet was not opposed to lighting but opposed to dangerous lighting, for example certain types of lights in different weather conditions. DeGroot stated that appropriate lighting is subjective.

Harrington stated that the streetlight problem on Hwy. 42 is being remedied by a simple raising of the fixture in the hood which better directs the light to the ground at a cost of approximately \$60 per lamp. The lights have a horizontal pollution problem versus skyward pollution.

Egg Harbor's Ordinance #143 purpose and intent is limited to commercial outdoor lighting. Merline recommended that our purpose and intent should include residential and commercial. Birmingham stated that Egg Harbor's ordinance is simple and direct.

Birmingham asked that Merline and Harrington take the lead and come back to the next meeting with a proposal.

Wetlands Setback: Birmingham stated that our plan recommends the setback be increased to 75'. County zoning is currently 35 feet. The Ag/Natural sub committee explored how the wetlands were degraded and felt that the 35' setback is not sufficient. Robert Florence of Door County Planning did not have any scientific reason for the 35'; it was a number adopted by practicality and political will. Birmingham will consult with William Schuster of Door County Soil and Water. Birmingham will also contact the Village of Ephraim to find the objective reasons for Ephraim's 75' setback. The ideal is to work cooperatively with neighboring communities to create a corridor.

Committee Reports: Utilities and Facilities: DeGroot stated the committee met with the Fish Creek Sanitary District #1 on the March 13th at which the potential merger of the districts was discussed. The commissioners favorably received the idea. The feasibility and legality of a merger has yet to be determined by the Town Board. Utilities Committee and Sanitary District wish not to create another

level of management. Procedural questions, a managing agent and funding costs are other areas to be explored. The Ephraim Agreement would affect costs, funding and reporting but would not affect the benefits of the overall managing agent.

The stormwater goal for 2006 is to obtain an expert opinion. Future stormwater engineering funds could be sought from the County.

Housing: There is nothing new to report at this time.

Official Map: There is nothing new to report at this time.

Land Use: There is nothing new to report at this time.

Adjourn: It was moved by Jauquet and seconded by DeGroot to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hagen, CMC
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer