

City of Bayfield Plan Commission

Minutes of March 26, 2024 – 3:30 p.m.

Call to Order:

Since Mayor Ringberg was absent, Councilor Carrier called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Bland, Carrier, Hedman and Johnston

Absent: Mayor Ringberg and Johnson

Others: Councilor's Dougherty and Cornelius, Mary Dougherty, Eric Gruber and Bayfield Troller

Staff: Clerk/ZA Hoopman, PWD Kovachevich, Laborer Bainbridge, and Harbormaster Hayes

Approve Agenda: Bland/Hedman moved to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

Review/Approve Minutes of March 6, 2024: Hedman/Bland moved to approve the minutes with the amendments written and proposed by Hedman. Johnston noted the e-mail reviewed at the last meeting was sent from Carrier. The bullet as stated is correct. Hoopman stated the minutes as drafted include the motions made and the amendments presented are not reflective of all the discussion that ensued. Carried.

Public Input on Agenda Items:

- Councilor Dougherty noted his concerns over losing two City employees over what occurred at the last meeting and the possible conflict of interest issue and noted he is not in favor of the amendments to the minutes as a means to change the narrative of the meeting.
- Clerk/ZA read a lengthy statement about the actions that occurred at the last plan meeting and noted the Commission, the Council, the Mayor and the community should be concerned, and something is wrong when two staff members resign after being aggrieved by those actions. She outlined what occurred, and noted her frustrations, concerns about a possible conflict of interest, and overall mistreatment.
- Councilor Cornelius said she recommends the meetings be fully transcribed, noting that no one seems to remember what was said and the minutes aren't reflective of that either. She further noted that Hedman put Carrier in a bad way when asking him to send in her work.

Whether to discuss or debate the public input was discussed. Johnston noted that you accept it and move on. If debated she would leave and there would be no quorum present.

Agenda Item(s):

1. City of Bayfield Wayfinding Project: Implementation Update

Bland walked the Commission through a series of wayfinding issues and questions. A summary of the outcome is as follows:

Restrooms – Placement and sizes of signs discussed and agreed to.

- Washington Ave. – both sides
- Visitor Bureau – Silhouette signs on East and South side of NE column. The Chamber will be consulted about their signage before any are purchased.
- Boat Ramp – Two signs, the east sign will be changed to rectangular (words and silhouettes) and be centered under the window.
- East Dock Park – One sign on north end; for now.

Hwy. and Street Signage:

- The AINL was consulted about their signs and said they didn't have a problem with replacing their brown signs with the new wayfinding signs. They requested the Commission change the text to "Apostle Islands Park Headquarters" and include it in Ojibwe. Discussion ensued and Hedman suggested it be "Apostle Islands Nat'l Lakeshore Park Headquarters" to better be aligned with their legal name. Need to double check with Park Staff. Commissioners agreed not to include the text in Ojibwe as it was previously discussed and determined not to on any of the new wayfinding signs. AINL also requested consideration of the placement of a closed sign and that was not approved.
- Eliminate the sign on Washington and Fourth Street.
- Big Bay State Park had no concerns with replacing their signs.

Purchase and Installation:

- Butcher blocks – All agree on using a rough-cut piece of stone. The question about having the blocks on a pad was debated. Pads can be added once placement and access is better known. Using concrete or bricks was mentioned.
- Parking Signs - All agree a design that includes a below ground concrete base/stabilizer is preferred as is the placement of two back-to-back pieces of sandstone.
- Durfey has reached out to three vendors for assistance: Heart Graphics, Ashland Industries and KV Build. Overall the price will be more than \$5,000 but less than \$25,000.
- Hoopman provided a draft Class 1 Notice which is required for this size project. She will move forward on getting it properly published.
- No action is currently being taken on Entry Signage.

2. Confirm/Set Next Meeting(s): April 23, 3:30 p.m.

Commissioner Hedman noted to those present that this is what normal Plan Meeting were like and she thanked PWD Kovachevich and Clerk/ZA for their work. No further comments ensued.

Adjourn: Johnston/Hedman moved to adjourn. Carried. (5:13 p.m.)

Minutes by Billie L. Hoopman, Clerk/ZA