

**Notes from Baileys Harbor Green Infrastructure Project Group Meeting  
February 15, 2016  
Baileys Harbor Town Hall  
3:30 p.m. until 4:45 p.m.**

**1. Introductions.**

Attending

Mariah Goode  
Steve Leonard  
Rob Burke  
Maureen Polczynski  
Pete Thelen

Roberta Thelen  
Jackie Thelen  
Mike Kemmler  
Roy Cole  
Bill Reifsnyder

Discussed

UWEX Design Team Visit coordinating group members Mariah and Steve are attending the first meetings of each of the groups so each starts off with the same information, etc. Each group has a coordinating group member or members assigned to it to act longer-term as a liaison(s) to the rest of the coordinators and to help the group navigate the implementation process for whatever projects are pursued. Gordon Rowley will be the coordinating group liaison for this group. (Other coordinating group members are Mariah Goode, Steve Leonard, Brynn Swanson, Doug Smith, Peter Jacobs, and Mike Meulemans, all assisted by Rob Burke, UW-Extension.)

These groups are not official committees, have no budget, etc. Notices, agendas, minutes, etc. are not required, although keeping track of meeting attendees, discussion items, and "homework" are advisable. Group membership should be open to anyone interested in that topic.

The Design Team posters and ideas should be viewed as concepts we can work off of, not necessarily projects we will definitely pursue, or pursue exactly as presented.

This group's function is to respond to the "green" issues that came forward from the November 2015 Design Team visit. If implementation of projects lead us to jurisdictional, legal, or financial concerns, we will need to approach the town board or appropriate committee for approval/assistance.

The other groups are focusing on: downtown, housing, town hall use, event assistance, business development, gardens/food/agriculture, dog-friendly spaces, trails, and natural resources. It was noted that each group is focused on sustainability, which is defined as achieving a balance of the economy, the community, and the environment, so that this group should probably be renamed to Green Infrastructure (or Green Group, for short).

**2. Website address (<http://door.uwex.edu/community-development/> ) and e-mail ([futureofbaileys@gmail.com](mailto:futureofbaileys@gmail.com) ).**

Rob Burke (UW-Extension, Door County) has to date placed some materials on the UWEX website pertaining to this project. He will be able to post more as well. The e-mail address can be accessed by any of the coordinating group members.

**3. Volunteer to be the "organizer."**

Bill Reifsnnyder volunteered to be the person who convenes the group's meetings.

**4. Volunteer to be the "secretary."**

Maureen Polczynski volunteered to be the person who develops the notes of the group's meetings.

**5. Review of relevant portions of Design Team visit summary, posters, and Friday evening input results.**

The group reviewed the concepts which came out of the Design Team visit. Everyone agreed the Design Team had done a good job.

**6. Discussion on projects, resources available, prioritization, timeline for action items, who needs to be involved with decision-making, etc.**

Conversation initially related to the importance of our work remaining transparent to the community. Discussion followed regarding utilizing the *DOOR COUNTY ADVOCATE* and *THE PULSE* to keep the community informed and invite any interested citizens to become involved. The group member leading our meetings could also be responsible for e-mailing Brynn regarding any upcoming meetings or substantive work we are doing.

Some projects have already begun, such as exercise classes now being held at the town hall. This also exemplifies the energy of the Design Team weekend driving a grass roots initiative that very quickly came into place.

Discussion moved to how we go about defining and maintaining "our small town character," which was highly valued at the public input session. This includes preservation of historic registry sites (there are at least six downtown), learning about and coordinating with the historical society, exploring design standards for new construction, etc. It was noted that all of the groups need to be mindful of these issues as they move forward on project implementation, but that the Downtown group will be the group primarily charged with looking at this issues.

Roy identified wind energy as a preferred interest, which also interests others in the group. Everyone agreed with the suggestion that we need some short-term objectives to show that we are making progress, though. In looking at the Design Team Posters, it appeared that issues were delineated into projects, i.e., recycling, and community education, i.e., green energy sources and options. Starting with something like recycling would give us quick, measurable results. Bill has done some leg work on recycling by contacting Steve Estes at Advance Disposal. Bill was told that Baileys Harbor is one of the last communities in Door County to have a recycling program with Advance Disposal. Recycling is no longer sorted, so this makes it very easy for the user. If it is recyclable, it all goes in one bin. Advance Disposal has a plant that does the sorting. Steve Estes told Bill that setting up a recycling program would save the town money. Bill will get more succinct information regarding this savings. He was also told that, historically, tourists are excellent recyclers and that more tonnage saves money for the community, so offering this service to tourists would be cost-

effective. The town's existing green site could be the location for this service.

The town board has already begun thinking about recycling gas and oil at the Green Site. The disposal of these things would need to be monitored at the Green Site with a safe receptacle, e.g., every Saturday morning for 2-3 hours. This would require manpower (the Site is now unmanned; the honor system has worked well). We could then segue into hazardous waste disposal, for which there may be grants available. A compost center could also be established. Leftover mash from Door County Brewery could be used if there are not enough farmers that want it. The collected compost could be used for the community garden. Another option would be to collect used fryer oil from local restaurants, which can be used in some vehicles.

It was suggested that we take baby steps in our work with recycling being our first project, then maybe move to gas & oil/hazardous waste/e-waste, then on to community composting.

It was discussed that we need to do a better job of recycling at our festivals.

Other local activities of interest brought up in conversation which are relevant to this group's focus:

- a) The Ridges is talking with Door Property Owners about possibly hosting the county-wide sustainability fair in July. A lot of logistics need to be worked out first to see if this is even possible.
- b) Two charging stations for electric cars are being installed in town - one at the Town Hall and one at the Blacksmith Inn. The Ridges may also install a third, depending on usage of the first two.

## **7. Next steps in defining subgroups, volunteers per action item in moving each project forward.**

### Homework:

- Bill will invite Steve Estes of Advance Disposal to the next meeting.
- Mariah will distribute the notes from this meeting (largely based on Maureen's notes!) and the names and e-mails of all group members to date.

## **8. Set next meeting date.**

The next meeting will be Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to gather information regarding potentially expanding the use of the Green Site for 24/7 recycling.

Bill will invite Steve Estes from Advance Disposal. If Steve Estes can't make it, Bill will bring all the information to the meeting.