

**Notes from Baileys Harbor Community Garden/Food/Agriculture Project Group Meeting
February 17, 2016
Baileys Harbor Town Hall
3:30 p.m. until 5:10 p.m.**

1. Introductions.

Attending

Mariah Goode
Steve Leonard
Lori Kemmler

Mike Kemmler
Kathy Atwood
Mike Meulemans

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. Mike Meulemans will be the coordinating group liaison for this group.

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.

2. Website address (<http://door.uwex.edu/community-development/>) and e-mail (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."

Mike Meulemans volunteered to be the person who convenes the group's meetings.

4. Volunteer to be the "secretary."

Carol Williams, not present at the meeting but interested in participating in the group, was volunteered to be the secretary. If she declines the honor, once she is informed of it, someone else will need to step forward. ☺

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.

Topics/projects discussed:

- A community garden is the main project of interest for group participants who were in attendance. People of all ages, kids especially, should be encouraged to be involved.
- Plantings in downtown. It was noted that the Downtown project group is interested in this as well. Garden/food group folks thought maybe the plantings could be edible: herbs (sage, chives, basil, etc.), nasturtiums, colorful vegetables. The BHCA has made the existing gardens on the Toft Property available for any types of plantings the group wishes to do. The funds the Downtown group thought might be available to offset the cost of pots for the downtown plantings are not available, so this group discussed idea of using beautified “repurposed” containers. Plantings throughout the town would be the same or similar, but containers would vary. Might work better anyway for ease of use, mobility, space constraints at some locations, etc., plus it fits with our “green”/ nature-focused identity. We could have a day/time when residents can bring their containers (we would have the right to reject!) and then we could paint/decorate, etc.
- Ridges has vegetable/demo gardens planted each year by volunteers – those could serve as the initial community gardens until such time as an appropriate spot on town-owned land is dedicated.
- Scavenger hunt idea tied into the Ridges, BHCA, and downtown plantings – each planting’s “find” on the hunt would be an ingredient for a recipe you could make with local ingredients. Steve has old Baileys Harbor cookbooks we could use with recipes from long-standing families.
- Community gardens on Beach Road in Liberty Grove and at the hospital in Sturgeon Bay – should visit, interview.
- Interview Baileys Harbor restaurants – what local food are they using? What can’t they get that the community garden could grow for/with them? Maybe the restaurants could be investors/partners in establishing the long-term community garden.
- Food/grocery co-op of sorts would be a longer-term project. Perhaps shorter-term goal would be to work with Baileys 57 to augment their local food offerings...? They seem interested in doing that.
- Farmer’s market needs to have more food (as opposed to crafts), especially fresh local produce. This issue is already being addressed by the Community Association.
- The town summer concert series schedule is going to be changed so as to coincide with farmer’s market days.
- Community kitchen. Other communities have explored the idea and it can be cost prohibitive. Willing restaurant owners can offer up their kitchens for use by

individuals trying to commercially produce food; other restaurants in the county have done or are doing that.

- Baileys Harbor house and garden walk.
- UW-Extension keeps a list of Door County producers. We could create from that a list of the Baileys Harbor producers (and any others we find or know of) and put that on BHCA website, or brochure, etc.

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

Homework:

- Kathy, Mike K, and Steve will work with the Ridges volunteers on having the garden plots at The Ridges become “community” gardens.
- Mariah will talk to the Downtown group and to Brynn about the idea of having the plantings be edible.
- Lori will work on the scavenger hunt/recipe idea.

8. Set next meeting date.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 13th at 3:30 p.m. at the Town Hall. (The Business Development group is also meeting at the Town Hall at this time. If there is not room for both groups in the building, this group can move to the Cornerstone.)

Sunday, May 22nd will be the first farmer’s market of the season. Group members should attend, as Mike M will have nasturtium “starters” at his booth to give to kids to get them excited about being involved in (community) gardening.