

**Notes from Baileys Harbor Trails and Recreation Project Group Meeting
February 23, 2016
Baileys Harbor Town Hall
5:00 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.**

1. Introductions.

Attending

Mariah Goode
Steve Leonard
Rob Burke
Peter Jacobs

Suzi Hass
Leslie Leline
Jeanne White
Chrissy Bergwin

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. Peter Jacobs and Brynn Swanson will be the coordinating group liaison members 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."

Mindy Wuolett, not present at the meeting but interested in participating in the group, was volunteered to be the person who convenes the group's meetings. If she declines the honor, once she is informed of it, someone else will need to step forward. ☺

4. Volunteer to be the "secretary."

Jeanne White was volunteered (and graciously agreed ☺) to be the person who takes the notes for 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.

Topics/projects discussed:

- Trails are the main project of interest for group participants who were in attendance, particularly multi-use trails which can accommodate horseback riders. Attendees were interested in identifying, promoting, and connecting all types of trails within the town, though.
- Depending on the type of users, trails can be surfaced/cleared in different ways. A shared-use trail could have multiple surfaces (bike/pedestrian on one side, horse on the other, etc.).
- Like the Design Team suggested/drew, it would be nice to connect many of Baileys Harbor's parks/natural areas/attractions. It would also be nice to have walking, biking, horseback riding loops through the town.
- Thumbs Up (horseback riding group) members have been approaching private property owners about riding on their land, some of whom live in Baileys Harbor and have been receptive to the idea. It was discussed that the only problem with such informal agreements is that current or future owners can change their minds – official trail easements would be far preferable. Group members will continue to talk to private landowners, though, to gauge levels of interest, types of trail users they'd be amendable to, etc. Perhaps informal arrangements could eventually become permanent/formalized.
- We need a good inventory/map of the trails that already exist in the town and what types of uses are allowed on them. Many entities have trails, but not all have maps and there is not one map that combines all of the mapped trails. We also don't have an inventory of places to launch boats/kayaks in town – that should be included on our map.
- After existing trails/uses are identified and mapped, the group can begin trying to figure out how to expand the network via making connections between trails and/or exploring the possibility of allowing additional uses on trails.
- After a map of trails/uses is complete, we need to figure out how to promote. Would be easy enough to post on websites, print as a poster and put at various spots in town (town hall, BHCA, Rec Park, etc.). Something inexpensive would be best as we will hopefully be adding to the network. The poster could map out suggested routes, miles, etc.
- Dogs and people could share an exercise trail with "obstacles" and/or exercise stations (adult exercise equipment, fancy or not). Maybe this is one of the uses that could be established at the new property next to the Rec Park?

- Thumbs Up Riders is going to hold their annual “Slide-Step Into Spring” line dance fundraiser at the Baileys Harbor Town Hall on the afternoon of Sunday, April 3rd. The group has already decided that proceeds from the event will go to benefit trail development/promotion in the town (i.e., this group).

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

The first project the group decided to tackle is to inventory existing trails and the uses allowed on them and to create a map depicting all of that information. Group members will also continue personal conversations with private landowners about potential usage of their property.

Homework:

- Contact existing entities we know have trails in the town to find out 1) if those trails are open to the public, 2) what types of uses are allowed on the trails, and 3) if they have a map of the trails. Entities to contact:

Mariah

- Town -- bike/pedestrian plan maps.
- County – bike/pedestrian/recreation plan maps and trails in county parks in BH.
- Bay-Lake Regional Plan Commission – bike/pedestrian plan and “water trail” plan (kayak launch access points).
- Door County Visitor Bureau – bike route suggestion maps.
- Snowmobile maps.

Peter

- Bjorklunden – trails and internal roads.
- Town – trails at existing parks/properties and platted but undeveloped roads.

Suzi

- Girl Scouts – trails at Kangaroo Lake property.

Steve

- The Ridges – trails at all their properties.
 - Toft Point – trails. (Town gravel road into Toft Point on east side...?)
 - Door County Land Trust.
 - The Nature Conservancy.
 - Department of Natural Resources.
 - The Rushes. (Technically in Jacksonport, but could be nice connection for a loop around Kangaroo Lake.)
- Mariah will also have printed for the group’s next meeting the following:
 - Giant air photo of town with roads labeled and protected lands shown.
 - Giant blank parcel map with roads labeled.

8. Set next meeting date.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 15th at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.