

**Notes from Baileys Harbor Dog-friendly Places Group Meeting  
March 30, 2016  
Baileys Harbor Town Hall  
5:30 p.m. until 6:45 p.m.**

**1. Introductions.**

Attending

Mariah Goode  
Steve Leonard  
Brynn Swanson

Judy Nixon  
Joe Miller  
Michele Geiger-Bronsky

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. Brynn Swanson will be the coordinating group liaison member 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" is 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](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."**

Brynn Swanson agreed to be the person who convenes the group's meetings.

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

Brynn Swanson 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:

- Dog park.
  - A final location has been chosen by the town board. The dog park will be on the 40-acre parcel adjacent to the Rec Park which was purchased by the town last year. The dog park will be immediately east of the wastewater treatment plant.
  - An approximately .85-acre area will be established for larger dogs and a .35-acre area for smaller dogs. A schematic showing proposed layout, parking, etc. may be found on the Baileys Harbor Community Association (BHCA) website ([www.baileysharbor.com](http://www.baileysharbor.com)) under the “parks” link.
  - Donations to the town for amenities at the park can be made via the BHCA website. (Benches, gazebo, sponsorship of a fence section, etc.)
  - Brynn has already set up a Facebook page re: the Baileys Harbor dog park. Once the park is open Brynn can post notices of events (like social gatherings for dogs and dog owners such as held in Egg Harbor and Sister Bay) on Facebook and/or distribute information via e-mail to her database. Those organizing such events will just need to get Brynn the information.
  - Fencing has been ordered and will be installed as quickly as the town crew can get to it.
  - May 2016 is targeted for the park’s official opening. It should be open in time for the Blessing of the Fleet/Scottie Rally festival weekend.
- Trails allowing dogs. Mariah noted the Trails and Recreation group is working on creating a map of hiking, biking, and horseback riding options in the town. She will ask that group to denote hiking trails which allow dogs. She also noted that the Trails and Rec group thought a multi-use trail that incorporated “exercise stations” for humans and animals would be fun. (Related topic which came up, for Mariah to mention to Trails group: consider designating on map places in town to rent or borrow bikes.)

- Brynn already has put together on the BHCA website a link for pet-friendly places in town (hotels, restaurants, parks, water access, etc.). The group reviewed this information and provided suggestions for places or information to add, such as contact information for local vets.
- ID micro-chip placement event. Could be held at the dog park, or downtown during Blessing of the Fleet weekend (not this year, though, for the latter).
- Dock jumping event. Would need to be a weekend which is not popular for fishing. Blessing of the Fleet weekend is not a good idea as the water might still be very cold.
- Dog Frisbee-catching or other similar athletic events could be held at the dog park.
- “Blessing of the Animals” event. Could be done in future years downtown as part of the Blessing of the Fleet event, or at a different time of year at the dog park.

It was discussed that this group may very well disband within a relatively short time-frame. Once the dog park is up and running and has taken on a life of its own, there won't need to be meetings or a group regarding the park – all activities, or fundraising for amenities or special events, can be planned by anyone interested and easily promoted via Facebook/BHCA. Likewise, “finalizing” the BHCA website and related promotional/informational materials does not require a group effort – the BHCA will simply need to verify and augment that information annually, like they do for all promotional materials. Finally, special events planning (micro-chip placement, dock-jumping, Frisbee-catching, blessing of the animals, etc.) can be taken on by interested parties and/or folded into existing festivals.

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

The group decided to focus this year on promotion of, and establishment of activities within, the dog park.

### Homework:

- If the town crew will have the fencing established, the Blessing of the Fleet/Scottie Rally week can be deemed the official opening of the dog park.
  - For an “official” opening: A ribbon-cutting ceremony could be planned for that week or weekend, and/or there could simply be the first “social” held that week.
  - Brynn will get a banner printed to post at the intersection of 57 and Summit announcing the official opening of the dog park. The banner will be up the week before and including the weekend of the festival.
  - The printed schedule for the weekend will include announcement of the opening of the dog park. Verbal announcements will be made throughout the festival as well.
- Mariah will pass along to the Trails and Rec group: 1) the suggestion to designate on their map dog-friendly trails, 2) the dog-friendly group’s support for the multi-use trail with human and animal exercise stations, and 3) the suggestion to consider possibly depicting on the group’s map places in town to rent or borrow bikes.
- Brynn will add to the dog-friendly website information the suggestions the group came up with, including vet information.

- Judy will organize the first “social hour” at the dog park for dogs and dog owners once the park is officially open. She will provide the information to Brynn for posting.

**8. Set next meeting date.**

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the town hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to finalize plans for the dog-park-related activities surrounding the Blessing of the Fleet festival weekend.