



DANE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee Housing and Economic Development Work Group Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 23, 2003
1 Fen Oak Court, Room 1A
7:00 p.m.

Meeting called by: Steve Steinhoff **Type of meeting:** Supplemental meeting
Planning & Development

Facilitator: Steve Steinhoff **Note taker:** Bill Preboski
Regional Planning Commission

Appointed members present: Bruskewitz, Cavanaugh, McGee, Mohrbacher, Morton, Wilcox

Advisory members present: Carlson, Draeger, Iaccarino, Kiemel, Newton, Olson, Threinen, Zehner

Others present: Eric Zweber, Kelly Keyes

For copies of presentation materials: **Online:** HED Updates Web Page
http://www.co.dane.wi.us/PLANDEV/ComprehensivePlan/workgroup_hed_updates.shtml
Hard copy: Contact Steve Steinhoff at (608) 266-4270 or by e-mail at steinhoff@co.dane.wi.us

----- Agenda Topics -----

- 1 Call to Order:**
Steve Steinhoff called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- 2 Introduction:**
Members introduced themselves.
- 3 Approval of Minutes of the July 29, 2003 meeting**
After a few minutes to review the minutes, no changes or addition were made.
Action taken: Minutes approved by unanimous consensus, upon motion by Wilcox and second by McGee.
- 4 Public comment:** Steinhoff noted that participation in all meeting discussions was open to all present. No public comment was submitted.
- 5 Review Agenda**
Steinhoff reviewed the agenda. Many members noted that they were unable to open email attachments sent out prior to the meeting. Extra meeting packet handouts were available.
- 6 Approve Work Group Decision-Making Process:**
Discussion : Steinhoff briefly reviewed the Dane County Comprehensive Plan Consensus Document and proposed a two-step decision: first to decide on whether to operate by consensus or majority rule, and second, how the consensus process will operate. Work Group members agreed to this approach. Many members voiced support for using a consensus approach, no one expressed any opposition or strong concerns. Members expressed differing views on whether

to allow one member to block a decision (with a “closed fist” as described in the document, which means “I cannot live with this decision. I need an alternative I can live with.” In general, members agreed that the Work Group would be able to achieve consensus on most decisions without encountering a closed fist. Some members felt that allowing a closed fist was important to achieving true consensus and put everyone on equal footing. Others expressed concern that, since participation was open to anyone at every meeting, one person who opposes the entire planning effort could block all decisions. Appointed members re-iterated the position that their role is to bring the consensus decisions forward to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Whether the Appointed members would do that by voting or not is yet to be determined. Newton proposed that the Work Group allow a closed-fist for the first time a decision is considered, understanding that the person using the closed fist is responsible for helping to develop an alternative they can live with. If the same person uses a closed fist on the next time the decision is brought to the group, the decision will stand and the person will have the option of entering their name and position into the meeting record. It was noted that a decision that reached a closed-fist could also be tabled to the next meeting.

Action taken: The Work Group decided by unanimous consensus that they would operate by consensus as described above.

7 Review, Refine, Affirm Goals and Policies:

Discussion: Steinhoff reviewed the hand-outs that listed the policies developed at the July HED meeting. The policies were grouped by goals derived from the State Comprehensive Planning Legislation and the adopted Dane County Land Use and Transportation Plan. Members divided into two groups: one to discuss housing policies and one to discuss economic development policies. Upon reconvening, members agreed that there was insufficient time to adequately review and reach agreement on the policies. The Work Group agreed to devote the bulk of the October 28 meeting towards this task.

8 Housing and Economic Development Plan Outlines and Future Work Group Meetings:

Discussion: Preboski distributed a table titled “Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy for Dane County Households: 2000.” The table detailed households by tenure, household type, presence of “housing problem” (mostly cost burden exceeding 30% of household income), and by municipality. He also reviewed draft outlines for the Housing and Economic Development sections of the Dane County Comprehensive Plan. The outlines, which include subsections for Background Data, Goals and Policies, and the Plans, are meant to list the section contents, and show their structure. As the group moves beyond the goal and policy portion of the work plan, staff will be asking members for suggestions of speakers to invite to HED meetings to provide additional information.

9 Next Meeting Date, Time, Agenda:

The next HED Work Group meeting will be held on October 28, 2003 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the DeForest Community Center, 505 N. Main St.

10 Such Other Business As Allowed by Law

No other business was discussed.

11 Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.