

Minutes
DCTA Membership Meeting
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Via Zoom

Towns Present: Albion (Larry Beck), Blue Mounds (John Brixy), Bristol (Jerry Derr), Cottage Grove (Steve Anders, Mike DuPlayee, Kris Hampton, Kristi Williams), Dunkirk (Norm Monsen, Ted Olson), Middleton (Cynthia Richson), Pleasant Springs (David Pfeiffer), Primrose (Martha Gibson), Rutland (Deana Zentner, Nancy Nedveck, Bob Postel), Springfield (Jim Pulvermacher), Sun Prairie (Lyle Updike), Verona (Tom Mathies), Westport (Tom Wilson).

Also Present: Renée Lauber, Sheriff Calvin Barrett, Betty Manson (WTA Director), Representative Diane Hesselbein, Steve Steinhof (CARPC), Chris Stoa (Rep. Gary Hebl Policy Advisor), Todd Violante (Dane County Planning Director), Hans Hilbert (Dane County Assistant Zoning Administrator), Dane County Supervisor Kate McGinnity.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by President Derr. Pledge of allegiance recited.

Sheriff's report

Sheriff Barrett was welcomed and gave an update on the jail project and deadlines related to bonding sunseting. He stated his preference for the size of the jail and emphasized the importance of operational costs. If a smaller jail is approved, the operational costs of shipping inmates etc. could outweigh any savings obtained from the lower price of the structure. A human trafficking deputy and a training deputy have been added. Also tablets (with internet hotspots) are available to provide access to additional mental health programming. They are looking to hire for 30 qualified positions. More information on jobs is available at TeamDane.com.

Approval of 9/22/2021 Membership Meeting minutes

Motion: Wilson/Anders. Approve 9/22/2021 minutes. Motion carried.

Recommendation to fill Vacant Dane County Board of Adjustment (BOA) Positions

Hans Hilbert, Assistant Zoning Administrator and staff person for the BOA spoke about the vacancies (1 board position and 2 alternate positions). The BOA hears variance requests (generally limited to setbacks or other dimensional issues) and administrative appeals. It also can address airport height limits and shoreland and wetlands statutes. The BOA has an average of 5 to 6 meetings per year. They are an on-call as needed type of committee. Meetings will include site visits associated with appeals. Members must reside in a town and no two members are allowed from the same town. Currently the BOA has members from Oregon, Berry, Rutland and Dunkirk. Training is provided in house and through the UW Stevens Point Center for Land Use Education. A bonus of the work is getting to see parts of the county you might not otherwise see. Please help spread the word. A general interest in planning and zoning or experience with town government is useful. Please contact Hans or Todd or Renee if you are interested.

Dane County Broadband Task Force presentation, Kate McGinnity, Dane County Supervisor District 37.

[Link to presentation.](#) Supervisor McGinnity spoke about the Task Force's composition, work and how it is addressing inaccurate broadband service maps. Municipalities have a hard time getting grants for broadband because coverage maps are based on census tracts. If one household in the tract has service the entire block is marketed as having service. Also the speed data reported by internet service providers

are speeds they believe they are capable of, not actual speeds. The Task Force will be mailing surveys regarding service in March. It is also working with the Madison Region Economic Partnership on an on-line speed test survey found here: [survey](#). A map showing the data received from the survey so far can be found here: [map](#). Accurate data can make it more appealing for providers to come in and service an area. A pilot project to install conduit during road construction was discussed. The Task Force will have public hearings on 2/28 at 6 pm and 3/4 at 9 am to gather more information. The ability to use ARPA funding was discussed. Supervisor McGinnity will get more information on that and report back.

Consider letter of support for EarthJustice Petition to the EPA, including the Town of Middleton as co-petitioner, for a regulatory lead endangerment finding for leaded aviation gas authorizing the EPA to work with the FAA to transition to unleaded aviation gas

Cynthia Richson, Middleton Chair, introduced the topic noting that many people assume that all leaded gas was banned when leaded car gas was banned in the 1970's. Leaded aviation gas is still being used in smaller planes. According to the Wisconsin DNR, Morrey airport in Middleton is a significant producer of leaded air emissions. There are now alternatives to leaded gas. The next step is to ask the EPA for a lead endangerment finding so they can start working with the Federal Aviation Administration. People can sign on to support the petition to get the endangerment finding and improve air quality. The goal is to have an efficient and safe transition to unleaded fuels.

Motion: Gibson/Brixy. DCTA support action petitioning the EPA for a regulatory lead endangerment finding for leaded aviation gas authorizing the EPA to work with the FAA to transition to unleaded aviation gas. Carried unanimously.

Consider requesting the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) to advocate for increased town authority to regulate speed limits.

Jerry Derr introduced the topic. Cities and villages have more autonomy to regulate speed limits than towns do. For towns, there are restrictions on what can be done beyond 45 mph. Further reduction requires a traffic study is needed and a warrant. These findings are expensive and very hard to get. Jerry spoke with a WTA lobbyist about the issue and with support it could get on their next legislative agenda. Many town residents bring issues of dangerous/blind intersections and petitions to lower speed limits to towns. Better tools are needed to address these situations.

Motion: Pulvermacher/Zentner. Request the WTA to advocate for increased town authority to regulate speed limits. Carried unanimously.

Consider DCTA 2022 Operating Budget

Budget was reviewed. It is based on the new dues schedule approved at the May membership meeting.

Motion: Wilson/Gibson. Approved DCTA budget. Carried unanimously.

Updates: CARPC, MMSD, Lakes and Watershed, WTA, Yahara CLEAN Compact

CARPC – David Pfeiffer and Steve Steinhoff reported that David Pfeiffer was appointed Chair at the last meeting. DCTA is well represented with Chair, Secretary, Treasurer all on Executive Committee. They plan to release the draft Regional Development Framework for comment at their February meeting. They provide mapping services for a number of towns and comprehensive planning services. They are continuing their joint educational service with the MPO. They are looking for topics, a survey will go out next month. They are forming a committee for proactive planning and to work on how CARPC and local municipalities can best work together.

MMSD - Tom Wilson reported that petitions have slowed down. There are a lot of infill petitions, not big annexations. Owner/community meetings have been going well. They are going to look at alternative rate structures. They continue to work with Yahara Wins on projects.

Lakes and Watershed - Lyle Updike reported they will set annual priorities in February. They are working with the Airport Commission on PFAS contamination. They have quarterly meetings with EANR and Land Conservation on continuing issues of lake levels and monitoring chapter 14 (erosion control and storm water management).

WTA – Betty Manson reported on Covid meeting postponements and upcoming meetings. The convention will be in Appleton this year on 10/9-11th. Towns are invited to attend any of the meetings in any of the districts that are convenient to them.

Yahara CLEAN Compact – Renee Lauber and Tom Wilson reported that the report is close to being done. The report will have actions that everyone can take to improve water quality.

DaneCom – Steve Anders reported plans for substantial hardware and software upgrades. Some limited connectivity may happen but will be limited to 4 hour periods.

Metropolitan Planning Organization - Kristi Williams reported she is now on the MPO. They are looking at transportation routes and problem intersections. She is learning a lot and will have a report for next time. It was noted that the MPO is really important for communities that are included in that area. Anything a town commissioner can do to assist towns with transportation funding helps.

Motion: Hampton/Williams. Adjourn 9:18 PM.