

Minutes
DCTA Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
Verona Town Hall

Present: Derr, Olson, Manering, Mathies, Pulvermacher, Gibson.

Absent: Anders

Also Present: Lauber

Meeting called to order by President Derr at 6:12 pm.

Approve 2/21/2024 Minutes

Motion: Pulvermacher/Olson. Approve minutes. Carried.

Consider Financial Report and Dues Update

Motion: Pulvermacher/Mathies. Approve Financial Report. Carried.

Discussed developing a document about DCTA membership. Renee and Mary will draft the document.

Update on working group to review Dane County Zoning code and conditional use permits

In early March Tom Mathies, Cynthia Richson, Attorney Eileen Brownlee and Renee Lauber met with Dane County staff to review problems with CUPs and discuss solutions. One option to address public hearing issues and legal questions regarding town authority, is to revert back to having the decision on CUPs be made by Dane County. Adding a requirement that Dane County can only override a town board recommendation if there is significant cause. Attorney Brownlee is drafting language and Corp Counsel will review. The working group will meet again on 4/10/24. The goal is to have language that the Exec Board would review at its April 17 meeting and then, if approved, put the item on the agenda for the May membership meeting. (Gibson arrived) Issues with holding public hearings were discussed including the appropriate location for the public hearing.

Update on inviting County Executive candidates to interview with the Executive Board on June 19th at 6:00 PM at the Westport Town Hall and the candidate forum at the DCTA Membership Meeting at 7:00 PM on September 18th (location to be determined)

Lauber reported that all 4 candidates were contacted and have said they are holding open the meeting dates. Meeting with each candidate for 15 to 30 minutes was discussed. The following questions were suggested:

- 1- What is your vision for towns in Dane County over the next 20 years?
- 2- How do you feel about town land use?
- 3- What are your feelings about the County purchasing town land?
- 4- Would you support fee -in -lieu payments to towns?

Questions will be discussed again at the April meeting. EMS services and consolidation were also discussed.

Grant writing educational session discussion and discussion of land conservation educational session

Lauber is working with Karl Green, UW Extension on a creating an educational session on grant writing. Focusing on grants applicable to road improvements was suggested. LRIP (Local Road Improvement Program)

– Supplemental, would be a good example as it is very competitive. The session should emphasize that we are in a grant writing world.

Inviting the new Dane County Highway Commissioner was discussed. Having a listening session with the new Commissioner was suggested. Perhaps April or May at the Westport Town Hall?

An educational session on conservation easements, streambank restoration, CRP funding, and funding that might be available for farmers and non-farmers was approved. Options for having it in Perry or Primrose were discussed.

Plaque update

Recognition plaques, trophy styles and pricing were reviewed. The trophy style was preferred. Concern that a plaque/trophy would add to clutter for a recipient was discussed. Renee will ask Melissa Agard for a resolution of recognition for Updike. Dave Ripp's years of service will also be recognized at the membership meeting.

Discussed CARPC appointment held by Pfeiffer.

Lauber noted that David Pfeiffer's 3-year appointment is up for consideration this Spring. She contacted Pfeiffer and he is interested in continuing to serve. He Chairs the Commission and provides some continuity as there is a new Executive Director (both Steve Steinhoff and Mike Rupiper are no longer there).

Motion: Pulvermacher/Olson. Reappoint Pfeiffer for one year because of extenuating circumstances (staff turnover) and invite to April meeting to give update. Carried. Mathies opposed (supported 3-year appointment).

Adjourn

Motion: Gibson/ Olson. Adjourn at 8:25 PM. Carried unanimously.