

**DODGE COUNTY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND PARKS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 18, 2015**

The Dodge County Planning, Development and Parks Committee met on May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Floor of the Administration Building, Juneau, Wisconsin.

Chairman Schaefer called the meeting to order. Roll Call was taken. Members present were Tom Schaefer, Allen Behl, Randy Grebel, Joseph Marsik and Janice Bobholz. The staff member present at the request of the Chairman was Joseph Giebel.

The Chairman asked the staff to confirm compliance with the open meeting laws and the public hearing notice requirements. Mr. Giebel noted that the meeting was properly noticed in accord with the open meeting law and noted that the required notices for the public hearing listed on the agenda were posted, mailed and published in accord with the statute and code requirements.

The agenda was reviewed and approved as posted.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Planning and Development

1. Review a possible amendment to the Dodge County Land Use Code to allow chickens to be kept within a platted residential subdivision.

Mr. Giebel explained to the Committee that the Department has received a request from a Dodge County resident to amend the County Land Use Code in order to allow chickens on all properties within the County. Giebel noted that general farming (which would include the right to raise chickens) is allowed in all of the zoning districts except for platted residential subdivisions which are restricted to no animals other than household pets. Household pets are defined as: Small, non-venomous animals or reptiles commonly found in residences as pets, such as dogs, cats, song birds, and other small animals, providing that they are not raised or reared for commercial resale or as a source of staple supplement. Household pets shall not include horses, chickens, cows, goats, sheep, swine, or other large or venomous animals or reptiles not commonly found in residences.

The staff asked for a recommendation from the Committee if the Department should proceed with an amendment that would allow chickens within a platted residential subdivision.

The committee voiced concerns with possible health issues caused by the improper care and disposal of the waste generated from keeping chickens on a property. The Committee had concerns with the ability of the County staff to enforce a code provision that would limit the number of chickens on a property and to respond to complaints. The Committee discussed the potential problems with containment issues and the types of structures that would be used to house the chickens. The Committee voiced concerns regarding the potential hardship that will be placed on the subdivision associations if they were required to amend their longstanding subdivision restrictions in order to restrict the type of animals/pets that would be allowed within their subdivision if the County were to amend the Code. The Committee's general consensus was that they did not support an amendment to the Code that would allow chickens to be kept in a platted residential subdivision.

Motion by Grebel to keep the current animal/pet restrictions for platted residential subdivisions.

Second by Marsik Vote 5-0 Motion Carried.

The hearing procedures were read into the record.

PUBLIC HEARING

Patrick Christian, agent for Christian Hill Dairy, LLC – Request for a Conditional Use Permit under the Land Use Code, Dodge County, Wisconsin to allow for the expansion of an animal confinement facility on this site within the A-1 Prime Agricultural Zoning District. The request is to allow a maximum of 3675 animal units on this site. The site is located in part of the SE ¼, SW ¼, Section 22, Town of Lomira, the site address being N10523 State Road 175.

Motion by Marsik to approve the conditional use permit application to allow for the expansion of an animal confinement facility with a maximum of 3675 animal units on this site within the A-1 Prime Agricultural Zoning District subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant shall follow all terms/provisions/requirements set forth in the approved ATCP 51 Livestock Siting application.
2. If needed, all required permits/approvals from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources shall be obtained.
3. Any significant change to the existing/proposed facilities, including any future expansion of the facility that would exceed 3675 Total Animal Units (AU), may require that a new Conditional Use Permit (CUP) be approved.

Second by Grebel Vote 5-0 Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. The minutes from the April 20, 2015 meeting were reviewed by the Committee.

Motion by Grebel to approve the minutes as written.

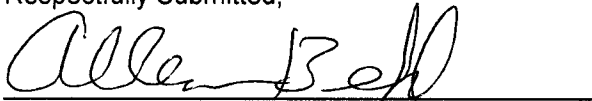
Second by Marsik Vote: 5-0 Motion carried.

2. The committee reviewed and signed the favorable report to approve the updated Comprehensive Plan.
3. No Committee Member Reports
4. No additional per diems.

Motion by order of the Chair to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Allen Behl, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.