

AGENDA
Tainter Menomin Lake Improvement Association, Inc.
Dunn County Fish and Game Clubhouse
1600 Pine Avenue, Menomonie, WI 54751
Tuesday, November 13th, 2018: 6 – 7:30 pm

Identity Statement: TMLIA is a civic non-profit that reaches goals toward water quality awareness and improvement efforts by using Civic Governance to educate and organize the civic infrastructure needed to govern for the common good.

Mission Statement: Increase awareness of water quality issues, advocate resource protection, and celebrate our rivers and lakes through community engagement and diverse partnerships.

Purpose for Civic Organizing Approach: Every member develops ownership in the organization in order to maintain the capacity to address complex public issues, making TMLIA a viable and resilient organization for the long term.

Purpose of this meeting: **Discuss 2019 governing issues.**

6:00-6:05 Introductions

6:05-6:10 Negotiate Agenda

6:15-7:00 Business Items

 2019 Strategic Plan/Goals

 Budget

 Board Members

7:00-7:10 Treasurer Report-Ben Hartenbower

7:10-7:15 Questions on Reports (in order to use our meeting time more efficiently, individual reports were agreed to be submitted prior to meeting)

 City of Menomonie-Randy Sommerfeld

 Dunn County Board of Supervisors-Mike Kneer

 Dunn County Land and Water Conservation-Lindsay Olson

 Outreach-

 K-12 Education-Amber Georgakopoulos

 President/Membership-Elizabeth Usborne

 Website-Mike Tomasek

 Calendar & Parade Float-Sarah Freeman

 Civic Governance-Chris Gaetzke

7:15-7:25 Legislative-Dick Lamers

 Future legislative work on local and state levels

7:25-7:30 Meeting evaluation

 Rating based on criteria:

- Purpose of the meeting was achieved
- Progress made towards achieving our goals
- Members came prepared
- Timeliness
- What is/not working

Upcoming Activities

Dec 11th Monthly Meeting (*SOCIAL EVENT?*)

Mar 14th, 2019 Red Cedar Watershed Conference

Jun 1st, 2019 Chippewa Valley Nature Fest

Jun 7th, 2019 (?) Sharing Our Resources on the Water, disabled fishing event

REPORTS

City of Menomonie

Summary of Nov 5 Menomonie City Council Meeting:

- Reviewed proposed city operating budget with council
- Approved removal of Dutch Elm diseased trees
- Approved building incentives for improvements at 902 Stokke Parkway, 4602 Domain Drive, and 815 Nordson Circle
- Reviewed Water Quality Trading plans and possible options. Approved pursuing this further to plan for future Waste Water Treatment for phosphorous
- Approved right of way adjacent to lots 1-3 3103 Dairyland Road
- Approved fire departments sale of the surplus 1998 ambulance
- Approved appointment of elections officials

Dunn County Board of Supervisors

The Planning Resource and Development Committee (PRD) met twice since our last regular TMLIA meeting.

We met on 10/9/18 and discussed Septic spreading, Manure storage ordinance, Rezoning process, and Stream habitat improvement.

Staff has a pilot project using 4 or 5 septic spreading sites as trials. They have been working with DNR staff in Madison to identify *exactly* where on the general sites spreading is allowed. DNR staff have been very cooperative but are short staffed, therefore the small project to start. Some sites are no longer being used but stay on the roll until the owner or DNR remove them. There is no regular oversight by the DNR. Action is usually only initiated when there is a complaint. (A common occurrence in county zoning also.) Counties have no authority to regulate septic spreading.

The “manure storage ordinance” is being updated to incorporate new state rules and current “best management practices”. How storage is done has a large impact on water. The large farms are mandated to meet state requirements. Smaller farms have fewer regulations and fewer resources to pay to build storage. Cost sharing for them is about the only way it can be accomplished.

The PRD would like to improve the way it handles rezones for developments. We are working on ordinance language in that area.

The PRD approved “In-Stream Habitat Improvement” for Tiffany Creek in the Village of Boyceville. This is for the 2019 County Conservation Aids Program.

We met again on 10/23/18 and discussed Federal and County cooperation in the conservation department, Manure Storage, Rezone process, Comprehensive Plans, and heard the UW-Stout presentation on the REU Red Cedar Basin research summary.

NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service—a federal agency) and the County conservation service explained their plan to continue cooperation between the agencies. John Sippl of NRCS, updated committee on their monthly meetings regarding the Wilson Creek project and the November 16, 2018 deadline. Discussed cost sharing and working with LWC (Land and Water Conservation) Division. (stolen Borrowed from draft minutes)

Presentation - UW-Stout Red Cedar Basin Research - Soil, Water, Community: Tina Lee and Chris Ferguson presented the report surrounding water quality issues and solutions in the Red Cedar Basin. They reported on several recommendations on how to move forward, ideas for generating needed financial recourses, suggestions for how to unify communities and build capacity, to a call to more effectively communicate with stakeholders and community members. This report was prepared by Dunn County and the City of Menomonie summarizes the first four years of research conducted by the UW-Stout Lakes REU students. (stolen Borrowed from draft minutes)

Check out UWSTOUT.EDU/LAKES for more REU information

Manure storage ordinance—see above

Rezone language---see above

We had a discussion regarding the County Comprehensive Plan, its purpose and application. I believe it should be the guiding force for county decisions regarding our resources and development. All plans had to be developed according to state standards. They all have two essential non-separable parts: The maps that tell *where* things should be done and the text, which tells *how* things should be done.

A special County Board Meeting (as dictated by law right after elections) **will be held the same time as the TMLIA meeting.**

The Neighbors of Dunn County Committee met 10/18/18.

This is a subject pertinent to TMLIA goals because it impacts the county budget. The new administrator is doing a great job. The facility is near the projected occupancy rate and improving. (therefore, income is improving) The biggest problem for the Neighbors, and all around the state, is staffing, staffing, staffing. Having all the new facilities in the Eau Claire area makes it doubly hard. If you are a CNA, LPN, RN, please apply! It is a great place to work!

County Board Meeting

Budget is the biggest discussion point. It is balanced but we borrowed to do it. There has been a huge increase in spending in the human services dept. due to the expense of taking care of juveniles who need to be taken from the home due to parental drug use.

The Red Cedar Township rezone request was passed on a 17-11 vote. The rezone was made to allow a housing development in the area.

Dunn County Land and Water Conservation

- Finishing up EQIP project in Wilson Creek for final NWQI finding cycle
- Attended "Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times" workshop and "Leadership for Midwestern Watersheds" conference
- Looking into options to develop a drinking water testing program
- Participating in WI Land and Water Professional Improvement Committee and Red Cedar Watershed Conference Planning Committee
- Met with Dunn County trout stream partners (do this quarterly)
- Completed phosphorus and WAV sampling for the year. I will give a report on the year after the final sample results have been posted. The Red Cedar Basin Monitoring Group is looking for additional volunteers and a new president for next year

Outreach

Kendra Lamer new UW Stout social media intern

Cathy framed Good Neighbor award and distributed fall newsletters at various local businesses around town.

Legislative

Turnover after Nov. 6 elections.

K-12 Education

On Oct 1st, Amber gave presentation to Menomonie 8th graders on TMLIA and water quality

President/Membership

- 162 members, 9 business sponsors for 2018. Already 2 members for 2019. Going to send out postcard mailing for renewal next month, as well as email effort. Updating membership letters and documents for 2019.

- Provided letter of support to a graduate at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for research into using cyanobacteria to make biofuels. Megan Swoboda grew up near Tainter Lake and is currently a student in the Environment-Enhancing Energy Group led by Dr. Zhang in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering. She is motivated in her graduate work to develop sustainable technologies and systems that produce food, energy, and clean water.
- Gave presentation on September 20th to Leadership Menomonie participants on Agriculture and the Environment theme.
- Contacted a few breakout speakers for 2019 Red Cedar Watershed Conference and reported 2018 in-kind hours
- Updated contact list on UW-Extension Lakes “Directory of Lake Organizations” page (that links from the DNR page for Lakes Tainter and Menomin).
- Met with UW Stout Environmental Sustainability Capstone students on Rec Park stormwater pond sign project.
- Advertised groundwater webinar series.
- Attended October 3rd Red Cedar Water Quality Partnership meeting
- Was contacted by Ted Rulseh (a fellow Crew 11 Lake Leader) about a book he’s written, titled “A Lakeside Companion.” Passed the information on to Kate to possibly use in upcoming book club.
- Shared LAKES REU consolidated report.
- Received check from the dissolution of Sustainable Dunn to go towards the next two Red Cedar conferences.
- Gave report on behalf of TMLIA for October 17th Joint Sustainable Working Group meeting
- Attended October 17th Civic Governance Meeting and updated them on TMLIA progress and challenges
- Put together annual meeting agenda, presentation, demonstration, and mailed postcard invitations to all members. Submitted announcements for annual meeting to Chippewa Herald/Dunn County News, and VolumeOne newspaper outlets, Facebook page, website, Chamber of Commerce event calendar, and email blast.
- Followed up with Duke and Dagger on fundraiser cocktail outcome-yet to hear back.
- Looked into funding available to homeowners for water quality projects. Not sure if we have the capacity to take on more new grants at this time, but could look into it if there is enough demand.
- Was contacted by Chippewa Valley Nature Fest to do a water quality pontoon tour in June 2019.
- Looking into PayPal giving fund, which looks similar to the Amazon Smile program (which I advertised again recently when they bumped up their donation percent for a couple days).
- Represented TMLIA at October 30th Dunn County Alliance of Conservation Clubs meeting. Discussed placement of fire breaks at Dobbs Landing, potential for new land acquisition at the Ferry Pitt in Colfax, and possible funding changes for next year’s conservation internship.
- Was contacted again about possibly hosting an art event

Website

Calendar & Parade Float

2019 Calendars are now available!

Civic Governance © Civic Organizing, Inc., Approved 8/14/2018

Civic Organizing Principles:

Human Capacity (to govern for the common good)

- *Every individual is a policy maker and has the capacity to know what is good, to grow in that knowledge, to govern for the common good, and to be a co-producer of justice in the world. Civic Leaders are obligated to organize the civic infrastructure to achieve this outcome.*

Democracy (A system of governance that requires citizens to govern for the common good)

- *Rule by “the people” is the best system of human governance. All stakeholders organize a civic infrastructure to govern for the common good and produce justice in the tension between individual and diverse interests.*

Active Citizenship (Civic Leadership) (Role that obligates all stakeholders to govern for the common good)

- *An active citizen is a governing member. In a democracy, citizens are obligated to govern for the good of the whole. In return for their contributions, citizens share in the rewards of a just society. Civic Leaders are obligated to organize the infrastructure needed for individuals to be active citizens in institutions of family, faith, community, work, learning and governance.*

Political Competence (mindset and skill needed to carry out obligation of active citizenship)

- *Politics is the “work of the citizen”. All citizens are responsible to develop the political competence to define problems, produce solutions, and establish policies in light of civic principles and standards while achieving their particular goals. This mindset and the civic skills needed to carry out the role of active citizenship is dependent upon civic leaders who organize the capacity for key stakeholders in their jurisdiction to carry out the obligation of active citizenship.*

Institutional Efficacy (Societal structure needed to sustain democracy and develop active citizenship)

- *In a democracy, institutions of family, faith, work, community, learning, and governance sustain the democratic values of our society and ensure the capacity to govern for the common good. Civic leaders and active citizens know they are obligated to produce the civic institutions and infrastructure necessary to sustain democracy as a just system of governance.*

Civic Organizing Standards:

- All those impacted by the problem are stakeholders and help define the problem in light of civic principles and the realities of their situation.
- All stakeholders are accountable for contributing resources (leadership/time, knowledge, constituencies & dollars) to solve the problem.
- All stakeholders are engaged in decision-making and policy-making that contributes to the common good.
- All stakeholders implement policies grounded in civic principles in the places where they have the authority to act.

Civic Organizing Skills:

- Critical thinking: Distinguishing objective reality (facts) from subjective reality (interpretative) as both relate to achieving our principles and common goals.
- Open-ended questions to engage different perspectives.
- Strategic listening to determine and clarify self-interest as it relates to common goals.
- Suspending judgment to understand divergent points of view.
- Ability to negotiate and compromise while staying accountable to civic principles.
- Fostering constructive tension to work through values that are each good in their own right but often conflict (e.g. freedom and equality).
- Holding self and others accountable for following through on agreement