

Village of Bellaire

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Dan Bennett, Georgia Jean Burns, Tani Carl, Butch Dewey, William Drollinger, Fred Harris, Brad Kik, Don Seman and Margie-Thomas Boyd

Master Plan Committee Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2018

5:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call Attendance:**
 - Present:** Dan Bennett, Georgia Jean Burns, Tani Carl, Butch Dewey, Brad Kik, Don Seman, and Margie Thomas-Boyd
 - Absent:** Bill Drollinger and Fred Harris
 - Staff Present:** Lori Luckett, Zoning Administrator
 - Also Present:** John Sych, Networks Northwest
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the of the June 13, 2018 Master Plan Committee meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Dan Bennett, seconded by Margie Thomas-Boyd to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) **Preliminary Community SWOT Analysis:** John Sych thanked everyone for attending. He reviewed the list of items identified at the previous meeting dealing with Bellaire's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. This information helped to develop the draft survey and recommended Focus groups.
 - b) **Master Plan Survey – Draft:** Mr. Sych explained that the survey would be available in two formats, hard copy and digital. Survey Monkey will be used. Focus groups will involve discussions. Mr. Sych noted that he had added items based on issued in other communities in Northwest Michigan. The survey was reviewed by section. Respondents will be able to identify items as not important, somewhat important, very important, or no opinion. Additionally, they will be given an opportunity to provide written responses in some section. The survey sections address characteristics in creating a desirable future for Bellaire and describing the type of community they would like Bellaire to be; enhancing the village economy; the types of development respondents would like to see; enhancing community engagement; strategies for addressing issues at Bellaire's parks and public spaces; strategies for improving the quality of life in Bellaire; addressing housing needs; preserving and enhancing Bellaire's natural environment; and other strategies for moving Bellaire forward and addressing current issues. The committee made suggestions for items to be added or removed from the survey. Items to be added included additional public restrooms, arts and culture, community hall redevelopment, farm to table marketing of local food, indoor farmer's market, manufacturing uses encouraging student/work force training opportunities, outdoor group activities, a possible parks millage, additional parks amenities, and more housing options. After discussion, Mr. Sych explained that the updated survey would be prepared for review by the committee and for approval by the village council at their next meeting. Once approved, the survey will be available.

c) Master Plan Focus Groups – Draft: Four focus groups have been identified: Antrim County, Natural Areas, Economic Development and Youth Interests. The Antrim County focus group was expanded to include Forest Home Township and Kearney Township for discussion of facilities and infrastructure. Natural Areas focus group was expanded to include Agriculture with the County Fair Association and Antrim Conservation District. There was discussion that a survey be developed for students. Mr. Sych would like invitations to be sent to suggested individuals or groups to attend meetings in either September or October for forty-five minute discussion sessions.

- 5. **New Business:** None presented.
- 6. **Correspondence/Reports:** None presented. The next meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2018. Mr. Sych indicated that the August meeting might not be necessary.
- 7. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Minutes compiled by:
Lori Lockett, Zoning Administrator & Recording Secretary

Approved: _____

Date: _____