

Board of Health. Mr. Munaretto stated he would object, noting that the Board of Health does not create ordinances. He stated he would welcome the Board of Health's participation in the process but to give them approval rights would not be acceptable. Other members voiced their agreement with Mr. Munaretto. Mr. Cort Carlson, of the McHenry County Convention and Visitors Bureau reported that in 2005 farming was a 170 million dollar industry. He stated that Agritourism goes beyond weekends and can increase visitors on a very large scale. Mr. Munaretto then made a motion, seconded by Ms. Peschke, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution supporting and promoting Agritourism as an emerging industry in McHenry County with the amendments made by this Committee. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Sign Ordinance: Ms. Ehardt reported that staff has completed the two year inventory of all signs in the County. She stated during that under-taking some concerns with the Ordinance were raised that should be re-visited. She will draft proposed amendments to the Sign Ordinance and bring that document to the Committee for consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Village of Wonder Lake, FPA Amendment: Ms. Wanaski reported that the Village of Wonder Lake has submitted to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP; previously known as Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission) a request to amend the Wonder Lake Facility Planning Area (FPA) to allow for a transfer of 868.5 acres of non-FPA land and 165.5 acres of land from the McHenry FPA into the Wonder Lake FPA to allow for service to future commercial and residential properties. She stated that this was for informational purposes and no action by the Committee would be necessary. She added that if the Committee had any comments, concerns or objections to the proposed amendment, they could submit those statements in writing to the Water Resources Committee no later than December 26, 2006. Mr. Merkel commented that the numbers used in this report are very misleading.

CDBG Commissioner Appointments: Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Ms. Chmiel to recommend the County Board appoint Joseph Powlowski to fill the citizen at large vacancy and Mark Ruda to fill the Housing Authority vacancy on the CDBG Commission. The motion carried with all members voting aye. Ms. Nueschen reported that the next meeting of the CDBG Commission is scheduled for December 27, 2006, but this may be canceled if there is no business to conduct.

Ms. Peschke noted that the Defenders can no longer do recycling and asked if there was anything that could be done to address this issue. Mr. Munaretto stated that Algonquin Township has an aggressive recycling program that perhaps could be leverage with other townships. Ms. Ehardt stated she would look into this and report her findings to the Committee.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE, AS APPLICABLE

Stormwater – The next meeting is on December 14th. The initial meeting was held in November and an update on the maps was provided. The members were also apprised of a neighbor issue that was a civil matter.

Mr. Munaretto asked if the Committee could continue their discussion on Agritourism and the formation of the Task Force. Chairman Wheeler stated she would re-open that conversation at this point. Mr. Munaretto stated membership on the task force should include a representative from the McHenry County Convention and Visitors Bureau along with representatives from the select growers group. He asked that a proposed member list be presented for discussion and consideration at the first P & D meeting in January. He noted the process should be kept simple and include those with vested interests. Ms. Ehardt noted that the agri-business covers a wide-range with many different issues and concerns. It was noted that both Michigan and Wisconsin are very organized and aggressive in encouraging Agritourism.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE (CONTINUED)

CMAP – no report at this time
MCCD – next meeting is on the 22nd

Planning Commission – Meeting next week and will consider a course of action to set goals and strategies to bring forward to the Committee and County Board. Mr. Munaretto stated that previously the County Board was going to develop goals and plans for the Planning Commission. Ms. Ehardt stated that as a starting point the Planning Commission will review the 2020 goals and objectives. They will bring their recommendations to the Committee and then to the County Board with Committee’s recommendation. Chairman Wheeler encouraged all members to review the 2020 Land Use Plan Goals and Objectives.

Mr. Munaretto commented that the 2030 Plan will be a product of Planning and Development. He stated that to have the County Board Vice-Chairman making reports to the County Board regarding the Planning Commission appears to be a conflict and questioned why those reports would not be made to the P & D Committee. Chairman Wheeler stated she had talked with Mr. Jung and he will be providing such reports to the Committee. Mr. Munaretto stated this can be confusing and asked that Chairman Wheeler discuss these procedural concerns with the County Administrator and Mr. Jung.

Mr. Munaretto raised his concerns in having a non-voting member serve as the Planning Commission Chairman. He stated that the liaison should serve simply as a liaison and not as Chairman. The Committee noted that the Planning Commission should select another member to serve as Chairman as the selection of the liaison was a conflict with the by-laws of the Commission. Ms. Ehardt will address this issue with the Planning Commission. Chairman Wheeler encouraged all members to attend the Planning Commission meetings if possible. Ms. Peschke pointed out that a previous State’s Attorney’s opinion noted that a liaison member could be a voting member and perhaps the word “liaison” should be changed to “member.” Ms. Ehardt stated it was up to the Board if the liaison should be a voting member and it was determined that this would be a non-voting position.

Imagine McHenry County – A presentation will be made to the County Board in February, followed by a presentation to the Planning Commission

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Merkel commented that perhaps a representative from the McHenry County Conservation District should serve on the Agritourism Task Force. He noted that the MCCD is getting more involved in this type of business and has close ties to the agricultural heritage of the County. Chairman Wheeler stated she would bring this up at the next MCCD meeting. She also stated that if anyone is interested in replacing her as the MCCD liaison to let her know.

Ms. Peschke raised concerns with a permitting issue and asked Ms. Ehardt what specific documents were needed. Ms. Ehardt noted that the owners had been informed of all requirements over a year ago and she is working on another response to their most recent correspondence.

Ms. Chmiel asked if the next County Board date had been set for training. Ms. Ehardt stated that no date has been sent, but staff was working on a calendar for future sessions.

Ms. Ehardt welcomed Mr. Ryan to the Committee and provided material and information for his review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Chmiel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Merkel, to adjourn at 9:30 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

- Approve a Resolution supporting and promoting Agritourism as an emerging industry in McHenry County
- Approve Resolution appointing commissioners to the CDBG

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