

July 20, 2017

## **Sand Creek TWP Long Range Planning (LRP ) Meeting Notes**

Attendees: Bruce Hunstad, Bill Schnieder, Emily Nordick, Bill Scott, Peggy Jo Dunnette and Herb Baldwin

Check out the Township website: [sandcreekmn.org](http://sandcreekmn.org) Many of the maps, Planning Meeting Notes, and the 2030 Comp Plan links are available

Note: The format of the meeting was changed from a 'presentation' to an 'open discussion' of the topics by the LRP Attendees guiding by the agenda. This gave us the opportunity to revisit and explain the planning history of the Township for the benefit of Bill Scott, a relatively new resident in the Township coming from California

### Review of June 15<sup>th</sup> LRP Meeting

Paul Nelson – Natural Resources

Curt Hennes – Watershed District

- A comprehensive presentation of Sand Creek Township's Natural Resources and the Watershed Districts activities in the easterly portion of Sand Creek Township was made to the LRP attendees. We thank both Paul Nelson and Curt Hennes for their presentation, information and expertise as well as their time with us
- In addition, we need to learn and discuss what our future proactive tasks are to conserve, protect and maintain our resources and include their consideration in all land planning issues in Sand Creek Township and adjacent Townships and the City of Jordan
- This would include informing current land owners', land users and developers of any violations of our intent to conserve, protect and maintain our resources

### Land Use – Existing and Proposed

- Herb provided a brief summary of Sand Creek TWP Land Use based on the Natural Resources and existing Land Uses



## Discussion –

- Based on the existing land uses and the historical development of Sand Creek Township we discussed the transportation patterns and connectivity within Scott County
- The historical and existing land uses, planning and zoning of the City of Jordan was discussed with a special note and concern for the proposed expansion of the City into the Township
- The City of Jordan has many existing natural resources, which make the connectivity of expansion difficult
- Scott County Planning has overstated the Urban Expansion Reserve area reaching into the prime agricultural uses in the Township for at least the foreseeable and reasonably predicted near future – recommend modification to the 2040 Comp Plan
- Coordinated planning efforts between Scott County and the City of Jordan is an imperative to develop comprehensively
- Sand Creek will need to be more insistent on better coordination between the County and the City to protect our agricultural areas
- Identify soil qualities as a means of determining future land use
- Conceive better planning of residential areas based on ‘site specifics’ and natural resources and existing or modified and expanded infrastructure systems
- Consider new development concepts using possibly Planned Unit Development, Urban Agriculture, buffers, natural and wildlife conduits, well designed water drainage and storm water runoff management
- Identify Sand Creek Township as a visibly well planned and designed Township featuring natural beauty, pristine bluffs, water ways, vegetation, responsible environmental living and working using Prairie Grasses and Wildflowers as a unifying statement
- Protect our water resources to be clean and pure without the chance of contamination – this includes management of water drainage and runoff
- Develop appropriately clear verbiage supporting the planning and design concept of ‘Site Specific’ land use



## Comments -

- We are coming closer and closer to 'crunch time' for giving information and recommendations to the Township and County by the end of the year.
- We need residents to 'show up' and 'contribute'!
- Are we wasting time? How do we achieve our goals? What information does the Township Chairman claim to have that isn't being shared with the LRP?
- We need to be more efficient and effective with our contributions we think we can meet. We need to think and plan 'proactively' and make today's actions a step into the future.
- What do we need by the end of the year? Recommendations, which are clear and concise by November or December. Promote the agenda, key topics, using email lists, Jordan Independent articles/calendar of events, and Next Door (neighborhood email notifications).
- We need 'Vision'.
- Priorities: Natural Resources, Land Use, Zoning (what is it and where it makes sense), Transportation (including non-natural areas and commercial areas), Entertainment (parks, trails), Recreation, History, Cultural Heritage, New Technologies and Regulations. No need to reinvent the wheel - all of the topics are listed in the 2030 Comp Plan to serve as a guide.
- Zoning Sub categories: Planned Unit Development, Density Planning, Low Income Housing, and Assisted Living which all need services. Natural areas also include Land Use.
- Reach out to coordinate what Jordan is planning and have our own ideas about how we want to change and integrate
- Look at the County Vision. If it doesn't meet our vision then we should recommend changing it!
- Try to imagine the planning process in three dimensions.
- Residents need to know the terms before they can fully understand the Comp Plan.
- Personal wants add a dimension to the picture.
- Other topics to discuss: Technology and how it will change us and our area.



### Miscellaneous Comments:

- Need an agenda and the next topic 1 week after the planning meeting for notification in the Townships' website following township meeting.
- Get a local expert on each topic to come to the meeting.
- Need a 'straw man' for the process, which allows for questions and discussion.
- Review the previous process and set some thoughts ahead for the next meeting to happen at each meeting.
- Prioritization is a method of keeping us on track – in the end all topics are affected and blend into each other and can be reviewed in an orderly manner.
- Most important is to communicate and contribute to the solution!

Respectfully Submitted

Bruce Hunstad

Emily Nordick

Herb Baldwin

