

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND
**McFarland School Board and Village Board Joint Planning Committee
Minutes**

Tuesday, March 1, 2022 - 4:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Village President Clow called the meeting of the McFarland School Board and Village Board Joint Planning Committee to order at 4:03 pm in the Community Room of the McFarland Municipal Center.

2. ATTENDANCE/ROLL CALL.

Members Present: School District - Arlyn Halverson (arrived at 4:13 pm), Bruce Fischer, and Wayne Anderson. Village - Carolyn Clow, Mike Flaherty, and Matt Schuenke.

Members Not-present: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Mahoney, School District Director of Business and Technology Services.

3. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

- a. *This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Village Board. Please remember this is a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom online meeting platform. Zoom meeting attendees wishing to address the board may do so using the Question and Answer feature within the Zoom online meeting platform. You may state your name, address, and provide your comments to the board for their consideration. Members of the public who are present in person and wish to address the board should fill out a public comment form and turn into the meeting chairperson. Members of the public may speak during public appearances or during their selected agenda item as they designate on the public comment form. Please adhere to the 3-minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to cassandra.suettinger@mcfarland.wi.us to be included as part of the meeting.*
- None.

4. BUSINESS.

- a. *Discussion and action regarding minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2022.*
A motion was made by Clow, seconded by Fischer, and unanimously carried by the Joint Planning Committee to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2022. Motion carried 5 - 0 - 0.
- b. *Discussion regarding transferring ownership and jurisdiction of the "School Forest" from the School District to the Village.*

The Director of Business and Technology Services from the School District went over a conceptual proposal to transfer ownership to the Village of approximately 6 acres of "school forest" adjacent to the Middle School property. The Village presently has adjoining park and conservancy lands more consistent with this land use, and has the experience to be able to better maintain these areas in the future. The area in question and surrounding areas as applicable can still be used as part of curriculum as needed to advance educational objectives. There is likely a larger community use for this land which is more aligned with the work that the Village does through its park system. The Village Administrator stated that the Village would be interested in the acquisition and

adding it to the existing park in the area. Both groups will run through their respective boards prior to initiating the process for land division. No further action was taken.

c. Update from the school district on the superintendent recruitment and strategic planning process.

The Interim Superintendent stated that Aaron Tarnutzer, current Middle School Principal, has been hired as the next Superintendent. They are working on the transition for him into that role which will become effective as of July 1st. In the meantime, they continue to work on finishing up the Strategic Plan having previously completed the equity pillar and now focusing on other goals to develop an action plan, bench marks, and other means to measure success. This work should wrap up later this Summer as the new Superintendent begins his work.

d. Discussion regarding the development of a Memorandum of Understanding to formally create and establish the ongoing utilization of the "joint School/Village Committee".

The Village Administrator presented a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that once adopted would provide for the more formal organization of this Joint Planning Committee. Staff for both organizations drafted the agreement and are supportive of its contents. The Joint Planning Committee was supportive of this work and recommend it be considered for adoption by each respective board.

e. Discussion of topics of mutual interest to the School District of McFarland and Village of McFarland.

Discussion topics included a shared Equity Officer position, the McFarland Youth Center, Community Recreation, School Resource Officer, local journalism, more students on Committees, and solar opportunities. Members were provided an update on these items and discussed those areas of interest where applicable. No action was taken on this item.

f. Updates from both organizations on their local projects/initiatives.

President Clow provided an update that the Village was going to begin the process to develop a Master Plan for the Municipal Center. This is a Village Board priority and would encompass the issue about Community Center development. She further commented that the board has taken action to change our board, commission, and committee structure and that we would be moving forward on implementation with this in May.

The Superintendent provided an update that in April there will be two new board members elected which may affect membership of this group. Additionally, his term as interim Superintendent will be ending with the close of the school year.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

a. Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

b. Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

c. Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

d. Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 4:00 pm.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

President Clow recognized Arlyn Halvorson for his years of service to the Community through his work on the School Board. He has dedicated his time for many years and thanked him for this commitment over the years.

A motion was made by Clow, seconded by Halverson, and unanimously carried by the Joint Planning Committee to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 pm. Motion carried 6 - 0 - 0.

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin boards in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew G. Schuenke
Village Administrator