

DRAFT
TOWN OF MAIDEN ROCK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE
Minutes for Meeting on May 18, 2026

The Comprehensive Plan Review Committee met on May 18, 2026 at the Maiden Rock Town Hall. Chair Carl Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m, Members attending were Chris Martin, Maryanne Wise, Judy Krohn, Will Bohrsen. Member Doug Sjostrom was absent, and Member Randy Erickson has withdrawn from the Committee. Mitch Bergeson attended and agreed to join the Committee as we wrap up our review. Also attending was Ken Harwood from Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission, who has assisted us with our review and updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

Carl took care of posting the notice and agenda for this evening's meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the corrected Minutes of our last meeting on March 30 were accepted by a voice vote.

We did not have a Committee meeting in April; however, many members attended the Town Board Annual Meeting on April 21, 2026, which also served as the date for our First Public Meeting to introduce the Draft Document to the Town Board and public in attendance. Maryanne commended Carl's presentation of our work to the Board; we were disappointed that more members of the general public did not attend the meeting to hear his report.

We agreed on dates for several upcoming meetings as we work to complete our final document for the Town Board:

We will not meet in person in June; however we will submit our final comments on the draft document to Ken by **June 10**.

Our next in-person meeting will be Monday, **July 6**, at 6:30 p.m. As we hope to present our FINAL document & recommendations to the Board at their regular meeting on **August 10**, a 30-day Class A Public Notice of this meeting/presentation must be posted on **July 10**. It is possible that we will find sufficient reason to have an in-person committee meeting on **August 3**.

At the Town Board's August 10 meeting, following our final presentation and recommendation for adoption of the Final Plan to the Board, the Board may vote to approve and adopt the Plan, or may choose to wait until their next regular meeting on **September 14**.

Ken presented us with a new draft of our Plan—in color! Any Red-colored text in the document is new language. The text now adds “meat” to our Goals & Objectives. Census data has been updated as of mid-decade. Trends indicate little poverty in the Town, solid median income of residents, housing is expensive. We are not positioned, as a Town, to do major subdivisions or allow large industries that require enhanced infrastructure. It was noted that some additional housing is being added for employees of larger farms. Due to the rise of Agri-tourism businesses in our vicinity, as well as being designated within the Great River Road corridor, our plan should reflect awareness and cognizance of the need to protect our rural character and the natural aesthetics of the Town from over-development for both visitors and residents.

Carl added a section on the early history of the Town from Indigenous Habitation and commerce to early European settlement in the mid-1850's. This new draft will be posted on the Town's website after our meeting this evening.

Some final actions necessary before a final version is completed will be for Ken, Maryanne, and whoever else would participate to make phone or personal contact with those partners listed in the Intergovernmental Cooperation chapter of our Plan: including Maiden Rock Village officials, Volunteer Fire Department, Ambulance Service, Sheriff's Office, County Board and School Districts of Ellsworth, Pepin and Plum City and others. The intended goal is to make these entities aware of our willingness to establish relationships and foster partnerships with these essential neighbors.

We discussed the "Land Use" chapter language in the new Draft. Our final recommendation to the Board includes the creation of a "standing Plan Committee" that will review any new development and re-zoning proposals for consistency with the Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan, as well as State Statutes, before final Board approval. While the Town cannot (at this time) deny large agricultural expansion (CAFOs), the Board can require permits/ordinances to protect roads and infrastructure, and address public health and safety concerns.

There are many maps included in the Draft—sources of those maps should be cited. And—due to the shape of the Township— the suggestion was made to print the maps in "landscape" format and Section Lines included in the final version. All the links (ordinances, references, citations) on the digital version have been checked and "work".

Ken pointed out that the final, adopted Plan is severable (a portion of the document can be changed without changing the entire plan) and can be amended by the Board at any time.

Committee members are reminded of the **June 10** date to send final comments, corrections (including spelling and grammar) additional sources, or technical information to Ken as he prepares the final version. If you have changes or corrections, please give Ken the page # of the draft for his reference.

We discussed name corrections to and inclusions of previous committee members to the Final Version—Carl will check with Randy, to see if he wants his name on the document.

On a motion by Maryanne, seconded by Will, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Krohn