



LIBERTY GROVE ROCKS

FROM THE FRONT LINES

We hope you enjoy receiving the Liberty Grove e-newsletter. If there are items you want to see in this publication please contact the Town Hall at tlibertygrove@dcwis.com. In the subject put newsletter. Our office is open from 8:30 until 11:30 and 1:00 to 4:00 Monday thru Friday. Check for a change in these hours after June 1, 2015.

Guest organization this issue: THE CLEARING www.theclearing.org.

The Liberty Grove Planning Commission has spent much of the past year working on the re-opened Comprehensive Plan; currently reviewing the Housing element. Public participation is always encouraged and very welcome.

We continue to hear conditional use and variance requests as they arise. Although we are not the final deciding body for these issues, we take the responsibility of Town input very seriously. Our commissioners are routinely trained with "hands on" case studies provided by the County Zoning Department. Members periodically attend CE seminars, as available, that deal with landmark and emerging Zoning law. Required reading and reference for our commissioners is the Zoning Board Handbook, published by the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point.

With the terms of two of our members expiring (Diane Kirkland and Kate Houston), we will need to fill Planning Commission vacancies. If you have an interest in serving Liberty Grove by your commitment of valuable time to influencing current zoning regulation and guiding future growth, please contact the Town office.

Nancy Goss, Chairman

Welcome to the inaugural edition of "Liberty Grove Rocks" electronic newsletter. I hope you find the contents informative and it keeps you abreast of Town government, activities, decisions, and upcoming important events. Committees and the Administration will be contributing articles in the newsletter. A guest organization or business will be featured in each addition. Please spread the word to your neighbors and friends.

The tag line "Liberty Grove Rocks" was suggested by Supervisor Lou Covotsos. It represents several aspects of our Town including the obvious amount of rock within the Town, the effort to establish an International Niagara Escarpment Interpretive Center and the reality this is a great place to live. The logo is compliments of David Studebaker. It was one of several presented as a possible logo for the Town. The Board has seen several suggested welcoming signs for the Town and our "hamlets" designed by Jones Signs of Green Bay. Each "hamlet" i.e. Ellison Bay, Gills Rock etc. would further be represented by signs identifying them in addition to being a part of the Town.

John Lowry, Town Chairman

Parks and Property – Gary Farber Chairman

It is only May and already your Parks and Property Committee has been active. Mike Schneider from the Clearing was kind enough to let us know that we had an invasive species (Autumn Olive) in the area of Fitzgerald Park. He was also kind enough to offer to have volunteers clean it up for us. You may see piles of brush along Garrett Bay Road and those will be chipped as soon as our crew can get to it.

We have been given the go-ahead by the insurance company to fix the damage done to the Ellison Bay Marina. This will start as soon as final costs and plans have been received. There will also be some work done in the area of the well in Will's Park as we uncap it to provide water to the marina area.

We will continue to address concerns with the cemeteries and any problems that come to light in the other parks in Liberty Grove.

Clerk/Administrator

As we emerge from the short cold days of winter, spring and summer work is in full swing for the current year. Parks are being spiffed up, roads prepared for paving and license renewal for restaurants and taverns being reviewed.

The Town is entering a new era by combining the clerk and treasurer positions into one clerk/treasurer person—this will allow the administrator to concentrate on the administration aspect of the Town and give flexibility to the combined position. An office assistant will be hired to man the front desk, take calls and learn the day to day operations and procedures facing the office staff. This is done so someone who is familiar with clerk and treasurer duties can possibly step into the position of clerk/treasurer when retirement comes calling.

The Board of Review will be meeting on May 20 at 6:45 to adjourn until August when the assessor's work will be complete. The procedures associated with objecting to a property assessment are spelled out in state statutes, making it important for a property owner to contact the Town office so the proper steps are taken. Notices of the Board of Review will be posted at the Town's posting places and Door County Advocate. Town posting places are: Ellison Bay Post Office, Pioneer Store, Sister Bay Automotive, Dovetail Trading (former General Store), and Town Hall office entrance.

The Town public works, parks and office staff make every effort to ensure that the Town operates smoothly and safely for the betterment of its citizens. That being said, we do not have eyes to monitor every aspect of the Town. We appreciate and are grateful if citizens contact the office to report any issues that may need attention.

Walter "Bud" Kalms

Liberty Grove Highway Committee

This year our committee will have its hands full! Yet we will progress slowly but surely to reach our "destinations" on a few of our roads which need improvements, advising our citizenry as we go or taking comments under advisement as we progress on matters, some of each depending upon which road is involved.

Probably the most impactful change this year will come on Beach Rd where the entire road is to be resurfaced in 2016 and many of the dead trees to be removed from within the road right of way this fall. Shortly Baudhuin & Assoc. of Sturgeon Bay will be flagging the right of way so property owners on Beach Rd. can visibly see where upon their property the town's jurisdiction extends. The clear zone will not be this extensive. On Isle View Rd the Town cleared 8' from the asphalt edge and on Garrett Bay Rd we cleared 6' from the edge and both roads have turned out beautifully. The Highway Committee along with board members will walk the length of Beach Rd. to observe the survey flags and discuss the need for tree removal.

Settlement Rd from Hwy 57 to Townline and Scandia Rd from Woodcrest Rd to Old Stage Rd will be resurfaced this year. Trees for the most part on these two roads were well back from the road surface so little additional cutting was required.

And finally: A portion of Garrett Bay Rd, from Old School Rd to Maplewood Rd, will be resurfaced this year as well. The tree cutting in this section was completed last year. Our committee has also been tasked with putting together a parking and traffic plan on Garrett Bay Rd. from Hwy 42 to just past the post office. There is concern with expanding business use, pedestrian walking, and vehicles speeding that more precise marking should be made.

If you have any questions, please contact me or a member of the highway committee. In the past there have been public pronouncements made that turned out to be factually incorrect. We would like to avoid that happening again.

Michael J. Walker,

Chairman of the Highway Committee

IMPORTANT DATES

June 12th – water sampling thru UW Oshkosh. Pick up sample kits at the Town Hall from 4pm to 7pm.
June 13th – drop off water sample at Town Hall from 9am until noon.
June 20th -document shredding and electronic recycling
June 26, 27, 28 – Olde Ellison Bay Days.
July 25th – Open Book at the Town Hall 11am until 1pm. Call 800-721-4157 for appointment.