

**Town of NAMAKAGON
Comprehensive Planning Commission
Minutes of January 5, 2026**

1. Call to Order

Chair **Randy Lueth** called the meeting to order at **7:00 p.m.**

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Linda Kraft; Jim Krueger; Randy Lueth; Jerome Malmquist; Jack McGregor; Larry Pribyl

Secretary:

Jerome Malmquist (appointed for this meeting)

3. Recognition

This meeting marked **Linda Kraft's final meeting**, concluding six years of service on the Commission. The Commission expressed appreciation for her contribution. The Commission is currently seeking new members.

4. Short-Term Rental Permits

The Commission reviewed **33 renewal requests and two new applications** for short-term rental permits, which will be considered at the next Town Board meeting. Ongoing complaints regarding rental regulation violations were discussed. The Commission recommended that the Town formally collect and track complaints and consider this information in future approval or denial decisions.

5. Comprehensive Planning Committee Recruitment

The Commission discussed recruiting members for the **Comprehensive Planning Committee**, including making a request at the next Town Community Dinner. It was recommended that future appointments increase diversity, as the Commission is currently all male. Committee members are expected to attend Commission meetings in accordance with bylaw attendance requirements.

6. Bayfield County Highway Commission Correspondence

The Commission reviewed a **January 9, 2026 letter** from the Bayfield County Highway Commission regarding crosswalk requests. While crosswalks were not approved, additional pedestrian signage remains an option.

A motion was made by **Jim Krueger**, seconded by **Jack McGregor**, requesting that the Namakagon Town Board contact the Bayfield County Highway Commission to discuss appropriate signage at the originally proposed locations. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Bike and Pedestrian Trail Grant

The proposed **bike and pedestrian trail** from the Namakagon Town Hall to the Rock Lake Trailhead has received approval from the U.S. Forest Service, along with additional stakeholder support. Based on consultant and Forest Service cost estimates, a **\$98,000 grant application** was submitted. The grant requires an **80/20 match** and is funded through federal sources administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

8. Comprehensive Land Use Plan Review

The Commission reviewed **Chapter 9, page 26** of the 2019 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. It was agreed that future revisions should include language authorizing the Commission to "review, evaluate, and make recommendations to the Town Board."

9. Additional Concerns

Cell Tower Update:

Weather permitting, additional anchors will be installed to support a 100-foot height increase. Verizon will be added, and T-Mobile is expected to follow, improving coverage. Two guy wires will cross an existing snowmobile trail. Safety measures are being developed.

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County Road D Safety:

Concerns were raised regarding pedestrian safety near the Yellow Dog Saloon.

10. Public Comment

None.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **7:55 p.m.** on a motion by **Larry Pribyl**, seconded by **Linda Kraft**.