

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
June 16, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The Williamstown Township Planning Commission convened at 7:35 pm at the Williamstown Township Hall located at 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan. Chairman Michael Fielek called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

PRESENT BY ROLL CALL:

Chairman Michael Fielek, Vice Chairman Rex LaMore, Commissioners Gerald Eidt, Rutgar Hoag, Ger Schultink, Planning Assistant Wanda Bloomquist, and Building Inspector Mark Miller.

ABSENT:

Commissioners Ronald Cook & Rod Imhoff, Board Representative Martin Wright. (excused)

ALSO PRESENT:

Planning Consultant Chris Doozan of McKenna Associates.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Motion by Commissioner Hoag to approve the minutes of May 19th as written.

Seconded by Bloomquist. Motion approved.

CITIZEN COMMENT (NON- AGENDA ITEMS):

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Deliberation of Article 2

- Consultant Doozan cited specific changes made to Article 2
- Chairman Fielek suggested holding deliberation off until more commissioners were present to discuss.

Motion by Commissioner Hoag to table deliberation of Article 2.

Seconded by Commissioner Eidt. Motion approved.

Sub-committee Presentation of Grand River Green Zone

- Commissioner Bloomquist discussed the progress of "Green Zone" and presented it as Article 99 – Green Development District – she noted that it does not address affordable housing or mass transit at this time.
- Chairman Fielek suggested removing ratio requirement for conventional & electric vehicle spaces, and use suggestive verbage
- Chairman Fielek asked for clarification of the pathway requirements on Red Cedar & Grand River Ave.
- Commissioner LaMore suggested adding "permanently affordable housing" under mixed use development – possibly allowing a higher % of lot coverage if it is affordable housing.
- PA Bloomquist suggested moving this forward to the public and residents of this area after the absent Commissioners had a chance to review and comment.
- Chairman Fielek thanked the subcommittee for their work in creating the Green Zone District and commended them for doing such a nice job on it.

Wetland Resolution

- PA presented the Wetland Resolution in opposition to Michigan repealing the Wetland Ordinance Act.
- Chairman Fielek suggested that it would be more appropriate for the Township Board to submit support of the wetland resolution, as they are the governing body for the Township.
- All commissioners present strongly recommend the support of the Township Board in this matter.

Motion by Commissioner Bloomquist to encourage the Township Board to create a resolution for opposing the repeal of Michigan's Wetland Protection

Seconded by Commissioner Eidt. Motion approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Review Zoning Ordinance Article 4

- Consultant Doozan reviewed suggested changes made to Article 4 (Parking & Loading).
- Commissioner Schultink suggested changes to Bicycle Parking (C-5), omitting the requirements for lighting, weather proof area, and signage.
- Commissioner LaMore suggested that PA Bloomquist check standards for bicycle parking with “Rails to Trails”.
- Commissioner Hoag suggested removing the bicycle parking minimums from the Parking Schedule, Sec 4.01 (D-5). Consultant Doozan will delete entire 3rd column from schedule.
- Chairman Fielek suggests adding requirements for an area to recharge electric vehicles in the parking requirements.

Review Zoning Ordinance Article 5

- Consultant Doozan reviewed suggested changes to Article 5 (Landscaping & Screening).
- Chairman Fielek noted that the right-of-way landscape language should be changed as it doesn't apply to all areas. Consultant Doozan agreed.

REPORTS AND REVIEW:

Township Board

- Meeting regarding Road Patrol at the Township hall June 17th at 7:00 pm – please try to attend.

Planning Staff

- PA Bloomquist announced the Energy Fair taking place June 26-28 – she will hopefully attend. She has also started attending the Tri-county Regional Planning & Development meetings and will continue.
- It has been requested that the PC prioritize items of interest in lieu of budget cuts. A list will go out to commissioners for their input.

PC Chair

- Need to address quirks in the e-mail packet system.

Review

- Discussed and tabled final deliberation on Article 2.
- Received presentation on the Green District.
- Made a motion to the Board to support a resolution urging the state to retain regulating wetlands.
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Motion by Commissioner Hoag to adjourn.

Seconded by Bloomquist.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Gerald A. Eidt, Secretary

Michelle Morse, Recording Secretary