

**Annual Report
Williamstown Township Planning Commission
April 2013- March 2014**

Commissioners: Dali Giese(chair), Rex LaMore(vice chair), Gerald Eidt(secretary), Joscelyn Brown-Timm, Rick DeShon, Phil Korson, Annette Davis and Ger Schultink, Rick Williams (board representative).
Staff members: Planning Consultants: Christopher Doozan of McKenna Associates, Inc; Wanda Bloomquist, Planning Assistant

REZONING

Sawdon, 2295 & 2299 E. Grand River Rd. from R-1 to I-1.

33-03-03-36-451-010 & 36-451-002

PH: 01/21/14: Planning Commission recommendation to the Board to approve the rezoning from R-1 to I-1.

Bd. Approval: February 11, 2014.

SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS AND SITE PLAN REVIEW

Stamp Rite Supersine Inc. Capital Asset Sign 148 E. Grand River: PH 09/17/13. Planning Commission recommended denial of the SUP. On 10/8/13 the Board denied the SUP.

SITE PLAN REVIEW

None

ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Zoning Ordinance Review revisions. PH 5/21/13: PH held for amendments to the zoning ordinance to incorporate revisions mandated by state law, to put the ordinance in sequential order of the revisions, to correct or rewrite areas that are hard to understand, to rewrite or delete areas that do not reflect the master plan. The Planning Commission recommended adoption of the revised Zoning Ordinance as presented at the public hearing.

07/09/13: Board adopted the recommendations of the Planning Commission with the addition of: 6.03(B): "except in Ag-c where it can be up to 6 ft.

Revisions addressing Donation Bins: PH 01/21/14. The Planning Commission recommended the Board approve language addressing donation bins with the amendment of language in E.1 to include all goods. On 2/11/14 the Board approved the recommendation of the Planning Commission with the additional wording " and or their designee"

MASTER PLAN

Master Plan Adoption: PH 9/17/14. By resolution, the Planning Commission adopted the Master Plan with the addition of " Natural Beauty Road " language.

12/11/13: The Board adopted the Master Plan by resolution with amended language to the Transportation Chapter.

SUBDIVISION PLAT

None

MISCELLANEOUS

Park Capital Improvements: 8/20/13 Planning Assistant Bloomquist presented the improvements proposed by the Parks Committee of the pavilion, restrooms and volleyball court for the Community Park on Grand River.

Joint meeting with the Board of Trustees: 09/17/13: Mr. Beyea reviewed the components of the Self-Assessment Toolkit for Sustainability and recommendations for the Township on ways to improve and accomplish sustainable solutions as well as promoting the Township's sustainability accomplishments.

Election of PC Officers: 10/15/13 Dali Giese was elected Chair; Rex LaMore, Vice Chair; and Gerald Eidt, Secretary.

Appointment of PC members: 10/08/13 Appointed Phil Korson to replace Rod Imhoff after his election to the Board of Trustees. His experience and involvement with the farming community will be invaluable to the Planning Commission. Rex LaMore and Joscelyn Brown-Timm were reappointed for a 3 year term.

Education: 2/27/14 MAP course: Making Bullet Proof Decisions by Professor Gerry Fischer. Over 30 representatives from Williamstown Township, Meridian, Locke, Delhi and the City of Williamston were present for the class.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Reviews: The proposed amendments to the Parks and Rec Master Plan were finalized with notification of the 30 day comment period for review posted on 3/30/14.

Red Cedar Corridor Practicum: The Township worked with a practicum team from MSU on draft trail plans along the Red Cedar River. This followed initial data collection work that was done by MSU student Nick Najor.

Meeting Dates: The Planning Commission meeting dates will change to Wednesdays for the next fiscal year with meetings being held May, July, September, and November.