

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
September 17, 2014
Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER

The Williamstown Township Planning Commission convened at 7:30 pm at the Williamstown Township Hall located at 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, Michigan. Chair Giese called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

PRESENT: Chair Giese, Vice Chair LaMore, Secretary Eidt, Commissioners Davis, DeShon, Brown-Timm and Schultink, and Trustee Eyster

ABSENT: Commissioner Korson

ALSO PRESENT: Planning Consultant Chris Doozan of McKenna Associates and Planning Assistant Wanda Bloomquist

MINUTES APPROVAL

Commissioner DeShon moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2014.

Seconded by Commissioner Davis

Motion approved

PUBLIC COMMENT

None- Closed at 7:33 pm

PUBLIC HEARING

Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Agri Tourism

Consultant, Chris Doozan, reviewed the proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to add regulations for Agri Tourism. Chris reviewed the definition of Agricultural Tourism, standards under which this would be allowed, added more detailed parking, what is considered minor and major, regulations for overnight accommodations, and hours. Major operations would require a special use permit, while minor would be by right.

Commissioner Schultink moved to open the public hearing.

Seconded by Secretary Eidt

Motion carries

There was no public comment heard on the proposed amendments.

Commissioner Schultink moved to close the Public Hearing.

Seconded by Secretary Eidt

Discussion:

- Provisions are already in place to address Demonstration Farms and Non-profit fundraising events.
- Correction of MM to OO.

Commissioner Davis moved recommending to the board the approval of the recommended revisions to the Zoning Ordinance adding regulations for Agritourism.

Second by Commissioner Brown-Timm

Discussion: none

Motion Carries

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Joint Meeting City of Williamston

7:00 pm, Tuesday Oct. 7th

Planning Assistant Bloomquist reviewed the Agenda for the Joint Meeting.

There was no additional discussion items requested.

A meeting reminder will be sent to the Commissioners with time and location.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

Chair Giese requested Commissioners to serve on the Election Committee.

Vice Chair LaMore and Commissioner Brown-Timm agreed to serve and will bring forth a slate of officers to the meeting in November.

Asked Commissioners to notify either Planning Assistant Bloomquist, or Election Committee members, if interested in serving as an officer for the 2014-15 year.

Planning and Board Reports and Review

Township Board

- Trustee Eyster reported on the Purchase of equipment for the playground from Art Tour proceeds.
- The Board approved the request to withdraw their application for the SUP and Variance request for the Car Sales at 1099 E. Grand River Rd.
- Town Hall meeting dates of September 24 and October 15 are set for 6:00 to answer questions regarding the ballot language for the road millage request.

Planning Staff

- Landscaping students are working on designs for the City of Williamston and the Township based on the results of the planning students Red Cedar Corridor Trail Plan.
- Presented an update on the progress on the park improvements and reminded the Commissioners of the volunteer opportunities.
- Commissioner Schultink will submit review comments on Meridian Township's Master Plan draft Goals and Objectives to be distributed to the Commission for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Review

- Held the PH on Zoning Ordinance Revisions to adopt regulations for Agri Tourism. Proposed amendments are being sent to the Board with a recommendation of approval.
- Reviewed the agenda for the Joint Meeting with the City to be held 7:00 on Tuesday, October 7th at Williamston City Hall.
- Vice Chair LaMore and Commissioner Brown-Timm agreed to serve as the Election Committee and will bring forth a slate of officers to the November meeting.

**Commissioner Schultink moved to Adjourn
Seconded by Commissioner Davis
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.**

**Wanda Bloomquist,
Recording Secretary**

Secretary Eidt