

**Annual Report
Williamstown Township Planning Commission
April 2010- March 2011**

Commissioners: Michael Fielek(chair), Rex LaMore(vice chair), Gerald Eidt(secretary), Joscelyn Brown-Timm, Ronald Cook, Dali Giese, Rod Imhoff, Ger Schultink, Martin Wright (board representative).
Staff members: Planning Consultants: Christopher Doozan of McKenna Associates, Inc; Wanda Bloomquist, Planning Assistant

REZONING

AG-C to AG-SF Gregory Shannon Shoesmith Road Parcel # 33-03-03-08-100-003 PH 10/19/10
Recommendation : Denial 11/16/10. Board Action: Denied 12/07/10

Conditional Rezoning from RE to R1. Steve & Melinda Roznowski 45 East Grand River Rd. Parcel #33-03-03-29-11-001. PH 03/16/10 Recommendation: Denial 4/20/10 Applicant did not take forward to Board for action.

SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS AND SITE PLAN REVIEW

None

SITE PLAN REVIEW

Wallace Storage: 1/18/11 New site plan was submitted by applicant. SUP needed for Portable Storage Units and Budget Truck Rental. Still in review.

ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Medical Marijuana as a home occupation. PH July 20th, 2010 for recommended revisions
Based on outcome of Public Hearing, Planning Commission is continuing review of the ordinance.

Articles 3-7: PH 2/16/10 for recommended revisions. Recommendations sent to Board on 3/16/10
Board Approval: 8/10/10

Wetlands Ordinance: PH July 20th, 2010. Recommendation to adopt revisions to the wetlands ordinance sent to the Board on 8/17/2010

Board Approval: 9/7/10

Section 2.2 Definitions:

Added: exceptional wetland, landscape level wetland assessment, nationwide permit, parid wetland assessment, and water dependent. Revised: minor wetland activity and wetland.

Article 3: wetland verification process was deleted.

Section 4.5 items 5 &6: additional criteria for evaluating wetland permit applications.

Section 6.2 item 3: dealing with compensatory wetland mitigation.

Throughout the ordinance references to Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (MDNRE) have been changed.

SUBDIVISION PLAT

None

MISCELLANEOUS

EECBG Grant: Funding for the consulting fees to develop the following was part of a grant awarded to the Township from the State of Michigan.

Grand River Green Zone: Sub-committee consisting of Rex LaMore, Dali Giese and Wanda Bloomquist worked with Planning Consultant Chris Doozan to develop the language for the Grand River Green Zone. A competition was developed for students and professionals to develop site plans for parcels located in the Green Zone. Awards were given and presentations were made to the Planning Commissioners on November 16th at a reception honoring the winners.

Trails and Greenways Amendment to the Master Plan: Sub-committee consisting of Jerry Eidt, Ron Cook and Wanda Bloomquist worked with Planning Consultant Chris Doozan to develop a Trails and Greenways Plan. The final plan was presented to the PC on 01/18/11.

New Commissioner: 9/21/10 Joscelyn Brown-Timm was welcomed as a new commissioner to the Planning Commission replacing Wanda Bloomquist who will remain as Planning Assistant.

Election of PC Officers: 10/19/10 Chair Mike Fielek, Vice Chair Rex LaMore and Secretary Gerald Eidt were re-elected as officers.

By-Laws Amendments: 10/19/10 The Planning Commission approved changes to the By-Laws
3.3 Status change for Planning Assistant
4.9 Addition of direct or indirect financial interest or discernable personal interest.
7.2 Addition of direct or indirect financial interest or discernable personal interest.

MDOT Grant: 8 foot paved shoulders for a designated bike lane were completed in August of 2010.

Ordinance Review: Beginning with Article 8, review has continued through Article 17.

Re-appointment of PC members: 9/7/10 Appointed to three year terms were: Rex LaMore, Board Representative Martin Wright and Joscelyn Brown-Timm (replacing Wanda Bloomquist who will continue to serve as Planning Assistant)

Joint PC meeting with the City of Williamston: 2/22/11 The Township was host to the joint meeting. Discussion items included: 425 Agreements, Recreational Development, Well head protection plan, Mass transit 96 intersection plans, Grand River Green Zone, Ordinance Revisions, Master Plan reviews and Medical Marijuana.

Greening Mid Michigan: 9/21/10 Joint meeting with Board to hear presentation from Harmony Gmazel from Tri-County Planning on Greening Mid-Michigan project.