

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
January 21, 2015
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 Eidt called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

PRESENT: Chair Eidt, Secretary Brown-Timm, Commissioners Giese, Weston, and Davis

ABSENT: Commissioners DeShon, Korson, Vice Chair LaMore, and Trustee Eyster

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

MINUTES APPROVAL

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2014

Seconded by Commissioner Weston

Discussion: none

Motion approved

PUBLIC COMMENT

None- Closed at 7:33 pm

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Agri-tourism

Consultant Chris Doozan reviewed the revisions that are based on the discussion held at the November 19th meeting and discussion with the Supervisor.

Noted are the following revisions:

- Signage would need to meet the guidelines in the Zoning Ordinance.
- Minor Operations hours would be until 8:00 p.m. Major Operations hours would be at the discretion of the Planning Commission.
- All four Minor Criteria would need to be met to be considered a minor operation.
- Exclusions: Any place a particular use is already regulated in the Zoning Ordinance is excluded along with any use that is superseded by GAAMPS.
- 13: Examples of Agri-Tourism were added.
- Removed Agri-Tourism from the RE district.
- Discussion:
- Removal of the RE district was to insure balance of the right of neighbors and the use of property.

Commissioner Weston moved to call for a Public Hearing to consider amendments to the Zoning Ordinance for Agri-Tourism to be held March 18, 2015.

Seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Discussion: none

Motion approved

City of Williamston/Williamstown Township

Joint meeting statement

Planning Assistant Bloomquist reviewed the amendments approved by the City of Williamston Planning Commission. Both Planning Commissions will forward to their respective Council and Board for consideration.

Commissioner Davis moved to present the Joint Statement to the Board for consideration. Seconded by Secretary Brown-Timm.

Discussion: Commissioners felt the Joint Meeting was productive and look forward to more cooperation and joint efforts between the Township and City.

Motion Approved.

Planning and Board Reports and Review

Township Board

- The Board continues to work on the budget and passed the poverty guidelines for 2015.

Planning Staff

- Brian Ruh is hoping to have the site plan ready for the Commissioners review by the March meeting.
- The MTA conference is scheduled for January 28th through the 30th.
- The Township is being recognized at the Sustainability Symposium on the 23rd.
- Commissioner Giese will represent the Commission at the February Board meeting if Vice Chair LaMore is unable to be present.
- 2015-16 dates will be set at the March meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Closed at 7:53

Review

Minutes reviewed and approved

Called for the Public Hearing to consider revisions to the Zoning Ordinance regarding Agri-Tourism. Reviewed the Joint Meeting Statement and have approved the statement to be presented to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Davis moved to Adjourn

Seconded by Commissioner Weston.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57

**Wanda Bloomquist,
Recording Secretary**

Secretary Joscelyn Brown-Timm