

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
May 21, 2013
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 LaMore called the meeting to order and reviewed the agenda.

PRESENT: Chair LaMore, Vice Chair Dali Giese, Commissioners Annette Davis, Joscelyn Brown Timm, Rick DeShon and Trustee Rick Williams.

ABSENT: Secretary Eidt and Commissioner Schultink

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

MINUTES APPROVAL

**Commissioner DeShon moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2013
Seconded by Commissioner Davis
Motion Carries**

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Public Comment closed at 7:33.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chair LaMore reviewed the process of the public hearing.

Public Hearing was opened at 7:36

Chris Doozan of McKenna Associates reviewed the reasons for revisions to the Zoning Ordinance:

1. To incorporate revisions mandated by state law.
2. To put the ordinance in sequential order of the revisions.
3. To correct or rewrite areas that are hard to understand.
4. To rewrite or delete areas that do not reflect the master plan.

Chair LaMore opened the floor to the public.

Public Comments: None

Discussion:

Chair LaMore expressed his gratitude of the thorough job the commission has done in undertaking the full review of the ordinance.

The Board is responsible for adoption.

**Commissioner DeShon moved to close the Public Hearing.
Seconded by Commissioner Brown-Timm
Motion Carries**

Chair LaMore noted that since there was not any opposition at the public hearing regarding the proposed ordinance, the Commission could make a recommendation to the Board.

**Commissioner Davis moved the draft Zoning Ordinance be presented to the Township Board for adoption as presented at the public hearing on 5/21/13.
Seconded by Commissioner DeShon**

Discussion: none

Motion Carries

Discussion:

Commissioners will be presented with a disk of the approved ordinance and the approved ordinance will be placed on the website as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS

Board meeting representation

Planning Assistant Bloomquist presented the calendar of Board Meetings and which Commissioner will be representing the Planning Commission at the Board Meetings.

Discussion:

- The draft minutes and Board Packet will be sent to the PC representative before the meeting.
- Commissioners are free to leave after presentation if necessary but encouraged to stay.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Master Plan Review

Chair LaMore informed the Commissioners that the Board approved the distribution of the Master Plan to neighboring municipalities and transportation and utility agencies that operate within the Township.

Planning Assistant Bloomquist reviewed the noted agencies to receive the notice.

Discussion:

Agencies to add included:

- CATA (Capital Area Transportation Authority)
- WOW telecommunications
- MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation)
- Meridian Police

Letters will be going out once the Master Plan is available on-line for review.

Planning and Board Reports and Review

Township Board

Trustee Williams reviewed the minutes of the Board meeting held May 8th, 2013.

Highlights included:

- Approximately 25% more ticket sales for the tour.
- May 11th Township Clean Up and Recycling was a huge success with the collection of electronics, metals, trash and sensitive documents.
- Updates to the Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Plan will be presented to the Planning Commission for review.
- Patricia Shelly's project of updating the information on civil war veterans.
- Joint meeting with the City of Williamston is May 30th. All are welcome to attend.

Planning Staff

Planning Assistant Bloomquist informed the Commissioners of an educational opportunity being held June 13th by the Citizen Planner Academy.

Discussion included:

- Improvements proposed for the Township Park
- GAAMPS
- Recent Corridor Charettes

Planning Commission Chair

Chair LaMore discussed the October planning opportunities that will take place as part of the Corridor Study.

Other discussion items:

- Possibility of the Township having an MSU intern for the summer.
- Suggestion of a Climate Change Committee. May want to look at actions that the Township could take regarding climate change and what an agenda might look like.
- Possible project for science students to write a policy paper on what could be done regarding climate change.
- Suggest looking at the MML (Michigan Municipal League) website for action items.
- Road work scheduled to begin June 1st on Zimmer Rd.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Review

Board- Zoning Ordinance

Master Plan- Planning Assistant

Board Representation: Commissioners

**Vice Chair Giese moved to Adjourn
Seconded by Commissioner Davis.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**Wanda Bloomquist
Recording Secretary**

Vice Chair Giese