

Michigamme Township

Planning Commission

Minutes of February 18, 2021

Present: Ruth Starr, Janice Anderson, Robert DellAngelo (Zoning Administrator), Joel Johnson (via Zoom), Emma Murphy, Julia Leake

Absent: None

Guests: Greg Murphy

Call to Order: 5:33 pm

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Amended Agenda: Motion to Approve: Emma Murphy, Second: Ruth Starr, Motion passes.

III. Approval of Minutes of January 21, 2021. Motion to Approve: Emma Murphy, Second: Ruth Starr, Motion passes.

IV. Old Business

A. Review of Master Plan

1. Motion to approve Master Plan and submit it to Ryan Soucy and Chris Germain for examination and recommendations: Jan Anderson, Second; Emma Murphy, Motion passes.

B. Changes to Zoning Regarding Small Animals

1. Possible text for ordinance regarding small animals such as chickens and ducks distributed to members, who are to read and discuss at the next meeting.
2. Some residents currently are in violation of township ordinances by having these animals.

C. Feedback from DDA on Zoning Ordinance Review

1. Update from Julia Leake on changes to signage ordinances
2. Recommendations for changes by DDA will be acted upon by Planning Commission at March meeting.

D. RRC Update – Revision includes two levels of certification: Essential and Certified

1. Certified is most desired, but it harder to attain
2. Motion to accept the recommendation of RRC advisors to focus on essential expectations for certification as opposed to certified expectations: Julia Leake, Second: Jan Anderson, Motion passes.

3. It is always possible to increase certification at the next level.

E. Progress Report on Legislative Letter

1. Julia and Jan will review the proposed legislation regarding Vacation Home Rentals that didn't make it out of committee.
2. A letter will be sent to Representative Cambensy and Senator McBroom outlining our concerns regarding such legislation of it should be forwarded again.

F. Marquette County Road Commission Letter

1. A letter regarding the gazebo and right-of-way has been received from the Marquette County Road Commission
2. Motion to acknowledge receipt of the letter and to forward the letter to the Michigamme Township Board: Jan Anderson, Second: Emma Murphy, Motion passes.

G. Planning Commission to receive a corrected copy of color-coded zoning map.

H. High Speed Internet Update – Within the next 5 years Michigamme Township should receive high speed internet through fiberoptic cables via a Consortium of AEG and Heron Broadband Inc

V. New Business

A. Grant Submission to the DNR for Tennis and Basketball Court Resurfacing

1. Public Hearing on grant details to occur before the next Township Board meeting.
2. Public announcement of hearing to be submitted to newspaper.
3. Michigamme Township Board needs to approve the grant submission before it is turned in.
4. Robert DellAngelo and Jan Anderson will work on writing the grant.

B. Planning Functions Going Forward

1. RRC and Revision of Zoning/Master Plan likely to take longer than expected.
2. Robert DellAngelo wishes to be done.
3. New Zoning Administrator and Planner need to be hired.

C. Riparian Rights

1. Non-resident of Michigamme Township wishing to anchor a 25-foot sailboat offshore.
2. Problems with Riparian Rights----not legal to do it.

D. New Zoning Permits – James DesRocher requests permission for land split

1. Motion to grant permission with the condition that the lake lot is acknowledged to be unbuildable: Jan Anderson, Second: Emma Murphy, Motion passes.

VI. Correspondence: None

VII. Public Comment: None

Adjournment: 6:50 pm

Next Meeting: March 11, 2021 a 5:30 pm

Reminder of CIP Scoring: February 24, 2021, 9:00 am