

# Michigamme Township

## Planning Commission

Minutes of November 11, 2021

Present: Ruth Starr, Janice Anderson, David Niemi, Terry McBride, Julia Leake, Jason McCarthy (Zoning Administrator)

Guests: Don DeRoche

Call to Order: 5:38 pm

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Approval of Agenda with Amendment: Motion to Approve: Leake, Second: McBride, Motion passes.
- III. Approval of Minutes of 9/9/21: Motion to Approve: Leake, Second: Niemi, Motion passes.
- IV. Old Business

A. Sign Ordinances

1. Jason McCarthy will clean up language to make ordinance more enforceable.
2. No action until final language is done. Public Hearing to be scheduled at that point.

B. Small (Non-Pet) Animal Ordinance

1. Jason McCarthy will improve language to make ordinance more enforceable.
2. No action until final language is done – Public Hearing to be scheduled at that point.

C. Blight

1. Blight recheck to be scheduled on Saturday, November 13, 2021 – Properties that have previously received a warning letter will be cited.
2. Car up on blocks in the ROW – Car still there - Photos taken, Marquette County Road Commission is dealing with this issue.
3. Chet DeRoche will take photos of blighted property near Arfelin Lake and forward photos to Planning Commission.

D. Vacation Home Rentals

1. List of all licensees was distributed to Planning Commission members
  - a. Motion to Approve Licensing Current Applicants: Niemi, Second: Starr, Motion passes.
  - b. License runs from January 1 – December 31, 2022.
2. Need to compare listings on Vacation Home Rental websites with those licensed.
3. HB4722 – Bill would eliminate local controls over Vacation Home Rentals.

- a. Has passed the House, not yet considered by the State Senate.
- b. Planning Commission members are encouraged to contact Senator McBroom.

E. MTA Training for Planning Commission

1. Terry McBride attended in person, Jan Anderson and Dave Niemi attended via Zoom.
2. Terry reports that sessions were beneficial, and all members should attend next year.
3. Terry provided each PC member with a folder of information from the meeting.

V. New Business

A. Container Structures for Residences

1. Planning Commission members do not want to see such structures in the township.
2. Jason McCarthy feels we do not need to change our ordinances, since these structures are controllable with current language. Only need to change it if we want to permit them.

B. Marijuana Ordinance

1. Michigamme Township Board has been approached by a grower for permission to build a growing facility in Michigamme Township.
2. This is in the early stages, and a public hearing will be conducted before a change in the current ordinance is made.
3. Dave Niemi presented a letter from Humboldt Township indicating that the marijuana grow facility has not benefitted the township as much as expected.

C. Informational Packets to Zoning Compliance Permit Applicants

1. Julia Leake introduced the idea that a packet of information be sent to all who apply for a Zoning Compliance Permit.
2. It was suggested by Jason McCarthy and agreed to by Planning Commission members that adding language to the Zoning Permit itself would accomplish the same thing.
3. Language on Zoning Compliance Permit will be changed.

VI. IV. New Zoning Permits Issued – None

VII. Comments from Zoning Commissioner: None

VIII. Public Comment – None

IX. Adjournment: 7:28 pm

X. Next meeting: December 2, 2021, at 5:30 pm