

Milton Township
Planning Commission
Approved Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2016

Members present: Chairman Hefferan, Cole, Merillat, Kingon.

Members absent: Kopkau, Lefebvre.

Also present; Weinzapfel and 1 audience member.

Hefferan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of meeting minutes dated July 12, 2016:

Motion by Kingon to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Cole. **Motion carried.**

Meetings and Announcements:

None

ZA Report:

Camp Maplehurst walk of the pathway meeting will be October 22 at 1 pm. Update on Bigelow property.

Township Board Update:

Cole said the Board approved the Boat House Storage zoning change. Sutter Road End Access has been updated. Cole mentioned the IB Program at Elk Rapids Schools for their 8th grade community service project. Let Tom know as he's trying to put a list together of possible projects. There is some discussion of a bike path through the township.

ZBA Update:

Kingon said there was a public hearing on a variance request for lot width at Morgan Shores which was denied.

Agenda:

1. ZA Report: Fireworks/Weekly Rentals Updates.
2. Recreational Vehicle Seasonal Park Subcommittee.
3. Sign Ordinance Discussion.

Move #2 to #1 to accommodate John Peal in audience.

Motion by Kingon to approve the agenda. Seconded by Cole. **Motion carried.**

Recreational Vehicle Seasonal Park Subcommittee Report:

Hefferan said they are looking for comments the current draft. Merillat asked if tents would be

allowed in the park. No. It would only be for RVs. The concern is for density. Merillat asked regarding the definition of “guests”. Are these people who are staying in the park or people who are visiting those staying in the park? What is the object of having a gate? Cole said it reinforces and controls how many people are coming into the park. It also stops flow through traffic. Dictating opening and closing dates seems strong. Change to “may” be open. Why do we want these to be seasonal? It could become a subdivision on tiny lots. Then you get into a more permanent type of set up. If we are not talking about seasonal, then we are talking about making a manufactured home community. Discussion of what constitutes the seasonal timeframe.

John Peal asked if “park models” would be allowed. Some of them are smaller than motor homes. Everyone said yes.

Merillat said if the state of Michigan has a lot to do with this, when the state law is referenced, please state the specific section of the law every time.

Merillat asked about maintenance in section N. What has to be maintained? Why are we dictating this? It was agreed to remove the section.

Weinzapfel asked about section C3. This is on a per-site basis. Perhaps add the word “permanent” to accessory structure.

Kingon will make the updates and we will discuss at the next meeting.

Motion by Cole to change the date of the next planning commission meeting to November 8th. Seconded by Kingon. **Motion carried.**

Shoreline Protection Subcommittee meeting will be set by Chris once he gathers member availability.

Sign Ordinance:

After looking at the sign ordinance, we need to take a look at 117.1701, Section B. Our house numbering signs are currently in the right of way. Right now, everyone is in violation. Looking at the definition of sign, where does it talk about house numbers? Cole said this is an easy fix to add “except for”. Could we just get rid of the 10 feet? Cole will work on a possible revision and bring it back to the next meeting.

ZA Report:

Regarding fireworks, we will keep a close eye on how the State of Michigan addresses this. If they do not take it up, we will form a subcommittee. Regarding weekly rentals, Chris is going to work this winter to make sure the applications are up to date with what is shown on VRBO/Home Away/Air B&B. Cole said to keep in our mind the road end accesses and the signage to help keep areas clean.

Weinzapfel said that Jim Stilson has retired after many years of dedicated public service. We

thank him for his service. He has submitted a letter of resignation and the board accepted his resignation at the meeting last night.

Hefferan will now serve as the chair through the term which will expire in January.

Hefferan opened nominations for Vice-Chair. Kingon nominated Lefebvre as Vice Chair.

Motion by Kingon to close nominations. Seconded by Cole. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Cole to elect Lefebvre as Vice Chair. Seconded by Kingon. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned by order of the chair at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Merillat