

LIVINGSTON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 17, 2010
304 E. Grand River Ave., Howell, Michigan, 7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Reid Krinock (Chair), Bethany Hammond (Vice Chair), Bill Anderson, Jeanne Clum, Brian Prokuda
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: James Sparks, Sylvia Kennedy-Carrasco
STAFF PRESENT: Kathleen Kline-Hudson, Rob Stanford, Scott Barb
OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order by Commissioner Krinock at 7:35 PM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLUM TO APPROVE THE AGENDA DATED MARCH 17, 2010, AS PRESENTED. All in favor, motion passed.
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4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLUM TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 17, 2010 MINUTES, AS PRESENTED. All in favor, motion passed. (Commissioner Prokuda abstained, as he was not present at this meeting)
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5. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC** –None
6. **ZONING REVIEWS**

A. Z-14-10 BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP:

The Brighton Charter Township Planning Commission is proposing to make changes to its Zoning Ordinance regarding the administrative means of enforcing the Ordinance. The Township desires to make the language generic so that the Township, County, or any contractor could enforce the ordinance instead of having a specific individual named, i.e., “Building Official”.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Approval. There was one public comment clarifying the reasoning for the proposal at the February 8, 2010 Public Hearing.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval. In the current economic climate, many communities continue to face reduced revenues and reductions in staff. Still others have been able to adequately adjust and survive for the time being. In order to address the on-going uncertain economic period, Staff believes that the Charter Township of Brighton has taken a smart, and proper, initiative to ensure the continued enforcement of their Ordinance, in whatever economic circumstances they may find themselves in the future.

Commission Discussion: Commissioner Clum inquired about the status of the Township building department and if the proposed text change was in response to that issue.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Commissioner Action: IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HAMMOND TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PROKUDA.

All in favor, motion passed.

B. Z-15-10 TYRONE TOWNSHIP:

The Tyrone Township Planning Commission is proposing to make changes to its Zoning Ordinance regarding storage of equipment in residential districts, particularly storage of recreational apparatus. There are also new/updated definitions being added. County Planning Staff performed a Courtesy review of a majority of these amendments in December 2009 and found no glaring omissions or errors.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Approval. There were a number of comments heard both for and against the amendments at the December 8, 2009 public hearing. Most negative comments were clarified through further discussion.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval. County Planning recognizes the considerable time and effort put forth by the Tyrone Township Planning Commission and their planner in regards to the development of these regulations. It is often difficult if not impossible to fashion a set of regulations that addresses every specific special land use issue that occurs in a community. These amendments appear to be a good first step by the Township in dealing with several specific special land use issues that have plagued them for many years (boat and other vehicle storage, portable storage units, etc.). It appears that from the notes supplied with this case, the Township will continue to mold and refine this section of the Ordinance over time. Staff believes that the biggest concern confronting the Township once this is approved will be the enforcement of these regulations, given current staffing levels. However, at least the Township has put in place an initial means of legally regulating these special types of land uses so that they may move forward in improving their community for the benefit of all.

Commission Discussion: Commissioner Clum commented that the review was very thorough. Commissioner Hammond indicated that the Township will be reducing the Zoning Administrator's hours.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Commissioner Action: IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLUM.

All in favor, motion passed.

7. OLD BUSINESS –

A. County Comprehensive Plan: The Planning Commission made a motion to distribute the County Comprehensive Plan for comment to adjacent communities. Motion made by Clum, seconded by Anderson. **All in favor, motion passed.**

8. REPORTS –

- A. **Township Visits:** Report on Unadilla Township visit was given. Staff requested that a Planning Commissioner attend the March 24 Iosco Township meeting. Commissioners Hammond and Krinock will attend the March 26 Oceola Township meeting.
- B. **CPC Newsletter:** Department newsletter was presented to PC members.
- C. **County Administration Update:** Cohoctah Township contract for master planning services to be renewed. Recovery zones bonds discussed briefly and how planning staff may be involved in this process.

9. COMMISSIONERS HEARD AND CALL TO THE PUBLIC – No Public Comment.

10. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS MOVED BY COMMISSIONER HAMMOND TO **ADJOURN** THE MEETING AT 8:05 P.M., SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLUM.

All in favor, motion passed.