

ESCANABA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES JUNE 7, 2021 HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE.

A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY HAS BEEN DECLARED BY TOWNSHIP SUPERVIOR, TOM RYMKOS, UNTIL AUGUST 31, 2021 AT 11:59 PM DUE TO THE CONTINUED COVID-19 CASES IN THE AREA OF DELTA COUNTY. COINCIDING WITH GOVERNOR WHITMER'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-115 RESTRICTIONS ON GATHERINGS.

Chairperson, Dean Vanloon opened the meeting at 7:30 PM then led the attendants in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Verbal Roll Call: Theresa Norton, Escanaba Township. Theresa Chenier, Escanaba Township. Renee Richer, Escanaba Township. Ray Hughes, Escanaba Township. Norman Fleury, Escanaba Township. Greg Faust, Escanaba Township. Dean Vanloon, Escanaba Township.. All members present.

Motion to approve May 20, 2021 minutes with modification in 1st paragraph to read: No future land use map was found from 2008, made by Theresa C. Second by Renee R. Verbal vote: Theresa C YES Theresa N YES Reneer YES RayH YES Normf YES Gregf YES Deany YES. Motion passed.

Public Participation: Deany announced to unmute your device to make any comments pertaining to the agenda. NO COMMENTS.

Motion to approve the Agenda made by Reneer. Second by Theresan. Verbal vote: Theresac YES Theresan YES Reneer YES RayH YES Normf YES Gregf YES Deany YES. Motion passed.

Zoning Administrator Gareau announced there are no new permits. There a couple prospects. The Labumhard blight issue will be discussed with the Supervisor to select an Attorney to represent the township in this case. Possible choice is Atty. ~~Stupack~~ from the local area. *YNV*
STUPACK

No Public Hearings schedules or heard.

OLD BUSINESS: It was decided to hold an additional meeting each month through September 2021 to be able to get old business completed. The Planning Commission will meet the first and third Mondays at 730 PM.

NEW BUSINESS: Dotty Lajoie, CUPPAD addressed the meeting members regarding the Future Land Use Map and Zoning Plan needed for the township. Suggestion to combine districts with similar descriptions into one zoning description. She explained Future Land Use Map is a tool the Planning Commission uses to see what the intended future uses of an area are. A Zoning Map has more detail. Deany stressed we are not talking about changing the Zoning Map. They are discussing the Future Land Use Map. Dotty will come up with a Future Land Use Map and how it might guide future development. DottyL will forward maps she presented to Theresa C and Theresac will forward that information to the Members. DottyL also offered to attend next Planning Commission meeting to discuss the maps.

Theresa Chenier gave a Board Liaison report. Board discussed repairs to Hall, cemetery drive paving, curtains for Town hall, playground maintenance of wood chips, Lake Bluff area lot purchase with potential for a playground and water well for fire department, cemetery and fire ordinances are also being reviewed and modifications being made.

Larry Klope, Township resident with experience as the Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Agriculture and Soil Conservatory Board presented a detailed soil depth map in the township. Reneer will forward the maps and other findings Mr. Klope presented, on to the Members for review and discussion at next meeting. Good information leads to good decisions was stressed by Chairperson Vanloon. Mr. Klope offered his services to the Commission, if desired.

PUBLIC AND MEMBER PARTICIPATION:

Sarah Mills of University of Michigan Urban and Regional Planning, praised the Planning Commission for their dedicated process and agreed with the approach taken by Dotty Laloue. Ms. Mills also offered her assistance to the Commission if needed through this process.

Richelle Winkler, Michigan Tech University Professor of Sociology and Demography, is connecting with CUPPAD on mapping updates for her mapping tool to add additional layers of soil and adding zoning districts for Escanaba Township maps. She can be contacted at rwinkler@mtu.edu.

Ray Hughes commented he felt this was a very good meeting and informed the Commission this will be his last meeting as he is resigning. Several comments of appreciation and gratitude for his several years of ~~servicing~~ ^{servicing} his township were made. His knowledge and kind smile will be missed. DMM

Motion to adjourn was made at 9:12 pm by NormF. Second RayH. Verbal Vote: TheresaC YES Theresan YES Reneer YES RayH YES NormF YES GregF YES DeanV YES. Motion passed to adjourn

Next meeting of the Escanaba Planning Commission will be held Monday June 21, 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom conferencing. Please check our website escanabatowship.org for meeting information. If you require any assistance to join a meeting, please contact cathyculliton@gmail.com or 906-280-6182.

Minutes prepared by Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary

Approved with spelling corrections June 21, 2021

Cathy Culliton, Recording Secretary

Dean VanLoom, Chair person