

MISSAUKEE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

County Annex Meeting Room

August 24, 2016 5:00pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Hartshorne-Shafer (Staff), Blaszak S, Fisher, Miller, Schwager, Shaarda, Zwolak

The meeting was called to order at 5:05pm by the chair. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the June 22, 2016 meeting were approved following motion by Mimi with support from Don. All in favor. The agenda for the August 24, 2016 meeting was approved as presented following a motion by Bruce with support from Craig. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New Member: Mimi Zwolak was appointed to the Planning Commission by the Board of Commissioners at their June 14, 2016 meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ben Jeffs/Parks update: Nothing new to report.
2. ConnectMI/Broadband update: Correspondence received from Tom Stephenson containing updates on any progress being made by ATI or other broadband providers interested in this area. Permits have finally been approved and ATI is preparing to move forward; they will likely be interested in additional meetings with local officials to gauge demand in the area. Tom also noted that more details regarding Charter's low-cost broadband program (launch date, etc) should be released next week. Suggestion during meeting that we find out what providers would need from local governments, etc (permits, letters of support, requirements, or other items) so that a provider knows right away what they need to do and who to contact; consider development of a checklist-type document. Also, will review what's left to do complete broadband certification process.
4. Bylaw Review/Adoption: The bylaws were presented and were approved with one additional change, following a motion by Mimi with support from Sherry. All in favor.
5. Ordinance amendment: Board of Commissioners approved request to amend Planning Commission ordinance; this change will eliminate the "Renewable Energy" position and will increase the number of "Recreation and Tourism" representatives from one to two. Linda will find out the exact process and get started.
6. Recreation Plan update: Update will hopefully be completed and submitted to the state by the end of December. Considerations include inclusion or addition of new goals related to new trails, etc; also update with new Lake Township recreation plan information.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mimi agreed to an appointment to the Missaukee County Parks Board, serving as the Planning Commission representative. Linda will provide her with the upcoming Park meeting dates and will notify the Parks Manager.

Objectives to complete for October 26, 2016 meeting:

1. Determine remaining steps in the process to achieve broadband certification status
2. Review Planning roster and membership

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

P.A. 116 – No applications for review, but suggestion that we pursue a P.A. 116 presentation such as the one we had a few years ago as it was very informative and greatly helped in the review process; will also be helpful due to changes in the program that we might not otherwise be aware of. Presentation would be open to Planning Commission, Board of Commissioners, townships, etc. Sherry will look into who can give a presentation; person that gave the last one is in a new position now.

There was no public comment. The meeting was adjourned at 6:19pm following a motion by Sherry with support from Mimi. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING: October 26, 2016 5:00pm**Public Comment Rules authorized by the Missaukee County Planning Commission: Each person recognized by the Chairman shall state their name for the record and will have a limit of 3 minutes to state an opinion. All opinions will be duly noted by the Commission & if requiring an answer will be addressed by the chairman first or his designee or in writing. The audience is asked not to interrupt at any time during public comment.