

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

May 25, 2017

The Clam Lake Township Planning Commission Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Stoutenburg at 6:00 p.m. at the Clam Lake Township Hall located at 8809 E. M-115, Cadillac, MI 49601. The purpose of the meeting is to take care of regular business. Also, we will have a vision casting session pertaining to the Master Plan.

Planning Commissioners Present: Stoutenburg, Morin, Stahl, Wade, Flint

Planning Commissioners Absent: None

Planning Commission Staff Present: Zoning Administrator Warda

Others Present: Dale Rosser, Zoning Board of Appeals,

Claire Karner, Beckett & Raeder, Karen Usher, Cadillac News

Motion by Member Flint seconded by Member Stahl to approve April 27th minutes.

YEA: Stoutenburg, Morin, Stahl, Wade, Flint

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Member Stahl seconded by Member Morin to approve agenda.

YEA: Stoutenburg, Morin, Stahl, Wade, Flint

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment: none

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Master Plan Project

* Claire Karner started conversation by asking, what would you like to see in your community in the next 10-20 years? What are the biggest needs in our township? Are there any Grants that would be good resources for our community? We would like to have an open house but the steps would be…

1. Website notice in newsletter
2. Survey online
3. Open house date & time

Also Discussed:

* We would like to see continued growth in the township but maintain the character.
* Family destination with a little tourism
  + Keep the hometown feel but with tourist amenities
* Continue with the growth of the Professional office space
* Upscale restaurants
* Fill in and expand our neighborhoods
  + There are subdivisions with open lots
* Diversity with housing option
  + We would like to see affordable, high quality rentals
* Diverse job opportunities
  + Industrial, service-based, locally owned
  + Jobs with technical training
* Trails-draw people in
  + Motorized and non-motorized
  + White Pine Trail

After discussing what we would like to see it the next 10-20 years, we moved on to thinking about what we would like our Master Plan to address:

* Land Development strategy
* Currently there are three districts
  + Commercial
  + Residential
  + Rural/Ag
* Exploring zoning similar to Joyfield Township
* Maintaining existing roads
* Sidewalks
  + Along 131 to Harmony Hills
  + Fox Hill to Hotels
  + Extend to MTMS through SRTS (Safe Routes to School)
* Blight Elimination
  + Commercial used as residential, transitional housing
* Address short term rentals

After, discussing some of the items in the township that need a little work or fine tuning we moved on the thinking about what questions and topics we would like the survey to address:

* Roads
  + Desire to support through Township millage?
* Fire
  + Support to continue has been strong?
* Support for trash/recycling
  + Consolidation private garbage haulers?
* Desire for additional recreational services? Amenities?
  + Township park-boat launch at Berry Lake?

After much thinking and brainstorming questions we moved to our final topic, what are our existing assets?

* Our location here with 131, 115 & Mackinaw Trail is great
  + Possible freight company-hub at 115 and 131
* Employment
  + 9&10 news
  + Radio station opened recently

Claire is going to contact and interview a few stakeholders in our community

* Jennifer Brown, Jennifer Suck
* 2-3 DDA Members
* Evergreen
* John Bodeman

Motion by Member Flint seconded by Member Stahl to adjourn the Planning Commission Regular Meeting.

YEA: Stoutenburg, Morin, Stahl, Wade, Flint

NAY: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.