

October 8, 2015

The Portage Township Planning Commission October 8, 2015 meeting was called to order by acting chairperson Ted Soldan at 7:00 PM. Present were Ted, Connie Sherry, Dean Latandresse, Bernie Carr, John Ligon, and Peggy Anderson. Guests Amy Zawada and Bruce Petersen were also present (see attached.)

Peterson updated guest Amy Zawada (Rental Inspector and Code Enforcer for the City of Houghton) on the updating of the zoning ordinance, and concerns about enforcement of rental regulations.

Amy explained that she works 10-15 hours per week for the city, but that she doesn't work from December - February. She said the city charges a prospective landlord \$750 to become a rental establishment. After that, the cost is \$100/year for annual inspections. She said she inspects every rental property every year. There are approximately 500 rental properties in the city. She said she can do up to 25 inspections per day.

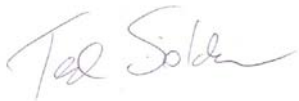
She said she had a pickup provided by the city that identifies her as the city inspector, and that on some visits, she brings a city police officer along. Amy went into some detail about her job and the challenges involved. She answered questions from commission members.

After Amy finished talking, the commission thanked her for taking the time to talk to us. After she left, the commission talked about the potential of hiring Amy or someone like her to do code enforcement and rental inspections. No recommendations to the board of trustees resulted from these discussions.

Soldan brought up the issue that since Rob had resigned, the commission needed a president. It was mentioned that Melanie might be interested in the position.

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:15 pm by Peggy Anderson, seconded by John Ligon, and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Soldan".

Ted Soldan, Secretary

7:00 10/8/15

P.C. Mtg. Sign-up  
who

- ① Bruce Peterson
- ② Gennie Sherry
3. Peggy Lee Andrus
4. Bernie Cary
5. TED SOLDA
6. Jean L. Kalandress
7. Amy Zawada
8. John Legon