

Portage Township Planning Commission

Minutes, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting, January 25, 2024

Present: Boerman, Cronin, Sherry, Soldan, Anderson, Griffis

Absent:

Public Present: Ollila; Don McClean (River Trails)

1. **Meeting called to order by Soldan at 7:00pm**
2. Amendments to agenda,
 - will discuss 2024 meeting dates at the end.
 - Update on large scale alternative energy project law.
 - Update on process by which zoning changes are
 - MSU Ext. Short Term Rentals presentation
 - Zoning Administrator presentation will be moved up to slot 5 on agenda.
 - **Motion to approve agenda as amended by Anderson, seconded by Boerman. Carried.**
3. Review of September 14 Minutes
 - **Motion to accept September 14 minutes Anderson, seconded by Griffis. Carried.**
4. Presentation from Don McClean on River Trails project. Written update attached.
 - Motion to approve request A by Griffis – seconded by Boerman, carried.
 - Motion to approve request B by Griffis – seconded by Boerman, carried.
 - Motion by Griffis to recognize 90% completion of stormwater management plan as drafted by JPP and allow building permits to be issued subject to final condominium site plan approval by EGLE/WUPHD, seconded by Sherry.
 - Discussion held, motion withdrawn.
 - **Cronin moves that the Portage Township Planning Commission no longer requires oversight of the project stormwater management by UPEA. Seconded by Griffis. Carried.**
5. Ollila presented:
 - Changes to Stormwater Management ordinance.
 - Board has authorized \$30,000 for planning commission to find a consultant to do a general review of zoning ordinance.
 - Need to make ZBA ordinance complete regarding membership.
 - Consider using same standard as county in terms of square footage minimum.
 - County permitted new road now through detention basin at development near high school. Gundlach to Gaffney.
 - Investigate who is out there re: a review of zoning ordinance.
 - ZBA meeting update from December.
6. Presentation from Griffis and Boerman on Stormwater
 - Boerman called the City of Houghton. City does not have a stormwater ordinance with specific numbers written down. Planning Commission decides on a case by case basis.
 - Hancock: If a site plan needs to be addressed by the Planning Commission, it must include a Stormwater Management Plan.

- PC will do further research on specific changes needed, likely that if a site plan needs to be addressed by the Planning Commission, it must include a Stormwater Management Plan.
7. Discussion of Parts B2 and B3, PC will review and come back to it.
 8. 2024 Meeting Dates: Griffis moves to accept proposed times for 2024 at 6pm, seconded by Anderson. Carried
 9. Soldan gave updates:
 - Large scale alternative, new law stipulating that if a municipality does not approve it this goes to PSC. Township should adopt CREO, Houghton County should have one as well. Soldan will present on this to the Houghton County PC. Law takes effect 11.2024.
 - Uploading important documents to the Township to the website.
 - Short Term Rental
 10. No Public comments.
 11. **Motion to Adjourn by Anderson, seconded by Griffis. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm**

Respectfully Submitted

Will Cronin, Secretary