

A special meeting of the Portage Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 by acting chair Ted Soldan. Present were Ted, Bernie Carr, Dave Rulison, Peggy Anderson, and Melanie Kueber Watkins. There were two visitors -- Bruce Petersen, and Pat Coleman. Rob Wittig arrived about 10 minutes into the meeting, and took over the chairmanship at that time.

The minutes from the previous meeting were deferred until the next meeting.

This meeting is the kickoff meeting for the zoning ordinance update. There will be 3 meetings to go through the old ordinance and make all necessary updates. Pat Coleman of North of 45 Responsive Urban and Town Planning will lead the planning commission through this process.

Pat reported that he had met with the zoning administrator and the township board prior to this meeting. From these meetings and his own reading of the current zoning ordinance, he has identified several items to be examined.

The members of the planning commission spent the next two hours going over the list on page 1 of the book Pat provided to each member of the commission, and looked at Pat's suggestions. There was a great deal of discussion. It was recommended that the commission members read through the zoning ordinance and Pat's suggestions to prepare themselves for the next zoning ordinance meeting.

Bernie suggested that the commission conduct the required business for the July 9 meeting at this current meeting, thereby making the next meeting unnecessary. There being no objections from any members, the commission proceeded.

Bernie made a motion to present the same roster of officers from the past year. That roster is: Rob, President, and Ted, Secretary. Bernie's motion was seconded by Dave and passed without dissent. The motion carried without dissent.

The commission unanimously decided to cancel the July 9 meeting and adopt a modified schedule of meetings (see attached.)

Bernie made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 PM. The motion was seconded by Ted and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ted Soldan*

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Ted Soldan, Secretary