

**MONTCALM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
M I N U T E S**

Monday, January 26, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
Third Floor Conference Room
County Administration Building

Members Present: Bruce Noll
 John Johansen
 Franz Mogdis
 S. Michael Scott
 Lonnie Smith
 Don Smucker
 Phil Lund

Members Absent: Pete Haines

Participating Members Present: None

Others Present: Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Franz Mogdis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Franz Mogdis led the group in the Pledge.

Roll Call

Lisa Lund took roll call and announced a quorum present.

All handouts noted are on file with the Recording Secretary.

Public Comments

Chairman Franz Mogdis opened the floor for Public Comment. There were no public comments.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The October 20, 2008 meeting minutes were reviewed (HANDOUT A). The group agreed postpone this agenda item to later in the meeting. There were concerns about potential corrections that may be need to be made to a section related to a old business item.

Approval of the Agenda

Franz Mogdis requested that the Commission add election of officers under new business. Motioned by S. Michael Scott to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Lonnie Smith. Motion carried.

Reports

Land Use Educator Report

Don Smucker provided his written report dated January, 2009 in the meeting packet (HANDOUT B). He asked members to modify their reports to add that Sidney Township be added to the "Mapping Committee" heading as a township that has purchased the county maps.

Don Smucker also distributed two handouts to members: a Planning for Water Quality training opportunity (HANDOUT C) and Land Use Education Work Priorities 2009 (HANDOUT D). Don Smucker shared information on a Land Use Leadership Academy on February 20-21, 2009. Contact him for more information.

Recording Secretary

Lisa Lund distributed Planning and Zoning News publications to members to those who had not already received them.

Lisa Lund received correspondence from Michigan Department of Agriculture dated November 11, 2008. This mailing contained documents representing landowners in our jurisdiction who completed contracts with the State of Michigan under the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act of 1974 (HANDOUT E). This was shared with members as an information item.

Old Business

General Plan Priorities Status

Franz Mogdis gave an update on the watershed priority item. The "Develop watershed management plans for each river watershed and major lake watersheds in Montcalm County" priority will begin to be addressed in March when the Land Use Coalition will present a program highlighting the need to protect these water resources and the role that individuals, organizations and government can play as well as key legal issues related to same.

John Johansen shared that Chris Hyzer recommends that the Planning Commission add Smart Growth to its priorities. This will be added and Franz Mogdis will bring more information on it to the next meeting. Don Smucker stated that these principles were included in the General Plan when it was developed.

Draft Planning Committee Ordinance

Don Smucker presented the latest draft of the revised Montcalm County Planning Commission Ordinance Ordinance (HANDOUTS F). Members discussed the document. Don Smucker will bring an updated version to the February meeting.

New Business

Election of Officers

Motioned by John Johansen to have the current officers of Franz Mogdis, Chairperson; Don Smucker, Vice Chairperson; and Phil Lund Secretary continues through 2009. Seconded by S. Michael Scott. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Chairman Franz Mogdis opened the floor for Public Comment. There were no public comments.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be Monday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. due to the President's Day holiday being on the third Monday.

Motioned by Bruce Noll to adjourn. Seconded by S. Michael Scott. Franz Mogdis adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary