

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

Monday, January 28, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Third Floor Conference Room
County Administration Building

Members Present: Bruce Noll
John Johansen
Don Smucker
Lonnie Smith
Phil Lund

Members Absent: Franz Mogdis
Pete Haines
S. Michael Scott

Participating Members Present: Chris Hyzer, County Administrator/Controller
Don Lehman, MSUE

Others Present: Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary
Peter Preston

Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Don Smucker called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Don Smucker 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

Vice-Chairman Don Smucker opened the floor for Public Comment. There were no public comments.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motioned by John Johansen to accept the December 17, 2007 meeting minutes as presented (HANDOUT A). Seconded by Bruce Noll. Motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda

Motioned by Bruce Noll to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Lonnie Smith. Motion carried.

Reports

Land Use Educator Report

Don Smucker provided his written report dated January, 2008 (HANDOUT B). John Johansen noted that the townships that he has visited respond favorably to Don Smucker's outreach to them.

Don Smucker distributed a news release on renewable energy for information (HANDOUT C) and he shared that the Montcalm County Land Use Coalition is trying to set up an educational meeting on wind energy at Montcalm Community College for March 13. Planning Commission members discussed the topic.

Recording Secretary

Lisa Lund address correspondence she received from:

1. Crystal Township PA 116 approval letter- Hagerman (HANDOUT D)
2. Conservation District PA 116 approval letter- Hagerman (HANDOUT E)
3. Isabella County Planning Commission letter re: review of draft Belvidere Township Master Plan (HANDOUT F)

Planning Commission members noted that Isabella County Planning Commission responded favorably to the draft Belvidere Township Master Plan.

Carbon Credits

No report.

Old Business

General Plan Priorities Status

Although a list of the original Planning Commission priorities was provided to the members (HANDOUT G), a revised update was not provided due to Franz Mogdis' absence at tonight's meeting. This agenda item will be addressed again at the next meeting.

Motioned by Phil Lund to recommend that the January, 2008 Planning and Zoning News publication be shared with the Montcalm Alliance and considered for guidance in developing the county's economic development plan. Seconded by John Johansen. Motion carried. Lisa Lund will send information and correspondence regarding this motion to Franz Mogdis.

Belvidere Township Master Plan Review Comments

Don Smucker was asked to draft recommendations which were presented to the group and this was distributed (HANDOUT H). Overall he stated it was well done.

Motioned by Phil Lund to accept the recommendations and forward correspondence noting that the recommendations were reviewed and accepted. Seconded by Bruce Noll. Motion carried. Lisa Lund will send the correspondence.

Draft Road Ordinance

The latest draft of the proposed road ordinance with revisions (Ordinance No. 2006-01) was reviewed by the membership (HANDOUT I).

Don Smucker facilitated the discussion regarding that changes that had been made and sought additional comments.

Motioned by John Johansen to make changes in the draft ordinance document, Section 5B as follows: rewrite item numbers two and three to address land division act compliance but drop public hearings; modify item number four to eliminate public hearing. Seconded by Phil Lund. Motion carried.

Motioned by John Johansen that the Planning Commission submit a request to the Montcalm County Board of Commissioners' finance committee for up to \$500 to be used for consulting services regarding proposed road ordinance revisions. Seconded by Lonnie Smith. Motion carried.

New Business

Proposed Pine Township Ordinance Change

Don Smucker distributed a draft letter he prepared on this topic (HANDOUT J).

Motioned by John Johansen to approve a letter for signature contingent on Lonnie Smith's review and forward the response. Seconded by Lonnie Smith. Motion carried.

Public Comments

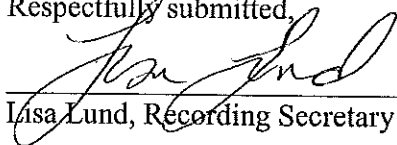
There were no public comments.

Planning Commission members decided not to meet in February. The next Planning Commission meeting will be on Monday, March 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Motioned John Johansen to adjourn. Seconded by Bruce Noll. Motion carried.

Don Smucker adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Lund, Recording Secretary