

Almont Township

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ALMONT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

February 11, 2009

The regular meeting of the Almont Township Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairperson Krauss, at the Almont Township Hall, 819 N. Main Street, Almont, Michigan. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT, Steve Francis, Jean Gross, Bonnie Krauss, Kim Streeter, Dennis Sweers, and Bryan Zender. Also present: Brian Wilson of Community Planning & Management, P.C.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Fred Hunter arrived at 7:21 P.M.

ALSO PRESENT: 0 guests

CORRESPONDENCE: Correspondence was presented. Chairperson Krauss inquired if the members of the Planning Commission and Mr. Wilson were satisfied with the correspondence from the Lapeer County Health Department regarding the Bible Truth Apostolic Church. Members of the Planning Commission and Mr. Wilson noted that they were satisfied. Chairperson Krauss stated that the site plan was then ready to be stamped approved. Question was asked regarding when the clock started and for how long. Mr. Wilson noted that the time began when the submission was complete and would be active for 180 days. The Zoning Administrator was asked to notify the applicant in writing.

All members of the Planning Commission stated that they would be attending the Lapeer County 29th Annual Planning Conference on Saturday, March 14th.

MINUTES: MOVED BY STREETER AND SUPPORTED BY SWEERS TO ACCEPT THE NOVEMBER 12, 2008 MINUTES AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

LATE AGENDA ITEMS: None

INTRODUCTIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARING: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: #1. 2009 Open Meetings Resolution

MOVED BY FRANCIS AND SUPPORTED BY STREETER TO APPROVE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE: FRANCIS – YES, STREETER – YES, ZENDER – YES, GROSS – YES, SWEERS – YES, KRAUSS – YES, HUNTER - YES. RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

ELECTION: Chair- Streeter nominated Francis for Chair, Hunter supported. Sweers nominated Krauss.

MOVED BY SWEERS AND SUPPORTED BY ZENDER TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS. MOTION CARRIED.

There were 5 votes for Francis and 2 votes for Krauss. Steve Francis was elected as the Chair for 2009.

Vice-Chair – Sweers nominated Krauss. Hunter nominated Streeter. MOVED BY ZENDER AND SUPPORTED BY KRAUSS TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. MOTION CARRIED.

Chairman Francis asked Krauss and Streeter if they would accept the nominations. Streeter and Krauss stated that they would. There were 5 votes for Streeter and 2 votes for Krauss. Streeter was elected as the Vice-Chair for 2009.

Secretary – Streeter nominated Gross for Secretary. Gross nominated Hunter. Chairman Francis asked Gross if she would accept the nomination. Gross declined, Hunter agreed to accept the nomination Chairman Francis stated that if no further nominations were offered, a motion to unanimously approved Hunter as Secretary would be in order.

MOVED BY STREETER AND SUPPORTED BY ZENDER TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT HUNTER FOR SECRETARY BY UNANIMOUS VOTE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. HUNTER WAS ELECTED THE PLANNING COMMISSION SECRETARY FOR 2009.

REPORTS:

Planner: The 2008 Annual Report was reviewed. Mr. Wilson noted the corrections stating that he will have an amended report for the March meeting.

Chairman Francis asked Mr. Wilson that due to the economic downturn, what direction the Planning Commission should be going in. Mr. Wilson noted that he believed that the Planning Commission was in good shape.

Engineer: No Report.

Zoning Board of Appeals: No Report.

Zoning & Building: Zoning & Building Reports for December 2008 and January 2009 were submitted along with the 2008 Annual Building/Zoning Report.

General Comments: Chairman Francis asked that due to the economic downturn that the Planning Commission keep an open mind and help the public as best they could within the limits of the Planning Commission's policies and procedures. Discussion followed on how the Planning Commission could help make the process smoother or easier.

Mr. Wilson cautioned the Planning Commission that straying too far from their procedures could potentially lead to problems.

Commissioner Streeter noted that being fully prepared for each meeting and having motions written down prior to the meetings could help make the process not only go smoother but also quicker.

Commissioner Zender noted that he found the current Sign Ordinance cumbersome and asked that the Planning Commission take a closer look at it to see if it could be streamlined and be made less complicated.

Commissioner Streeter updated the Planning Commission on the residential project that is proposed for the corner of Bordman Road and Hipp Road (Bruce Township).

Commissioner Sweers asked that the Planning Commission take another look at the By-Laws, especially the cancellations of meetings.

Agenda for March 18, 2009

Old Business: Review Sign Ordinance
Review By-Laws

New Business: None

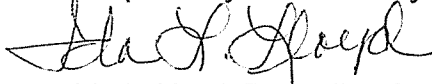
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**MOVED BY ZENDER AND SUPPORTED BY SWEERS TO ADJOURN THE
MEETING AT 8: 25 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ida L. Lloyd".

Ida L. Lloyd, Recording Secretary