

Vassar Township Planning Commission Minutes (final)

September 8, 2016

Call to order 7:02 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Kendall Woodruff

Roll Call:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Janice Zawol(vice-chair)		x	x
Orv Hartung		x	x
Fred Welsh(secretary)	x		
Russ Kime		x	
Bill Gray	x		
Don Clinesmith	x		
Kendall Woodruff (chair)	x		

August 11 Regular Meeting Minutes

Bill Gray moved to accept minutes as written. Don Clinesmith seconded the motion. Carried. Minutes approved as read.

TRUSTEE REPORT

None this month

## ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT 09-13-2016

- 01) RE-DO PREVIOUS ZONING PERMIT, BUILDING CODES NEEDED BETTER WORDING
- 02) BLIGHT GRASS MOWED ON IRISH
- 03) BLIGHT CRAP CLEANED UP ON HESS
- 04) BLIGHT CLEANED UP M-15
- 05) GRASS MOWED PASSORELLO ON SHERIDAN
- 06) DEPUTY AND I COURT FOR VIOLATION
- 07) 2 DEPUTY AND I DRIVE AROUNDS

08) Z.P. FOR SPRAGUE, NEW HOME ON CAINE RD.

09) Z.P. FOR GRILLO, NEW HOME ON SWAFFER

10) Z.P. FOR WORTH, ADDITION ON RUPPRECHT

Zoning codes are unclear in item 01(Kendall will check with Curtis on which codes)

#### Parks and Rec Meeting

Parks and Rec Board no report this month

#### Cass River Greenway

No Report this Month

#### Old Business

Kendall Woodruff informed the Planning Commission that Russ Kime has submitted a letter of resignation from the Planning Commission. Dan Zuzula has submitted an application for this position. The Planning Commission is recommending his appointment.

Kendall discussed whether the Planning Commission would do the Webinar or continue with the Master Plan. Kendall said we have six months on the Webinar. We will have a special meeting on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm to continue work on the Master Plan.

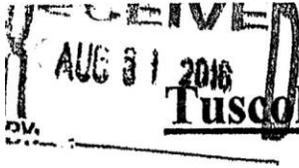
#### New Business

Howard Partridge, Ben Partridge's father at 3840 W. Saginaw Road is having problems with the parking lot for the Nazarene Church draining across his property. Kendal could see nothing in the zoning ordinances to cover this. Ben said that the ditch in front of Albrecht's has been filled so the ditch doesn't drain properly. Ben Partridge believes the parking lot was built last year. Ben Partridge said the Church property formerly drained to a swamp on the property. Fred Welsh asked if the parking lot slopes away from that swamp. Fred Welsh said that the Planning Commission could call our lawyer to ask if this is our responsibility. Kendal said he would call the lawyer on the issue. Don Clinesmith discussed a drainage problem he had. Fred Welsh said that Vassar City government is involved with drainage. The Township might have responsibility. Ben Partridge discussed the problem with the road ditches as well. Ben Partridge was not speaking on behalf of his father, Howard.

Tuscola County Office of Emergency Management has requested agreement with the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Fred Welsh moved we recommend the board approve the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Don Clinesmith seconded the motion. Carried. The Planning Commission recommends adoption of this plan.

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420 Court Street



8/24/16

**Tuscola County Office of Emergency Management**

Street Suite # 1, Caro. Michigan 48723-1606

Tele: 989-673-5181 Fax: 989-673-8164 E Mail — [tcemandejson@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:tcemandejson@tuscolacounty.org)

Deputy Steven Anderson, Coordinator

To: Tuscola County City Managers/Administrators, Township Supervisors, and Village Presidents

Date: August 24, 2016

Subject: Adoption of the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan has finally met the Federal Emergency Management Administration's (FEMA) required criteria for a multijurisdictional hazard mitigation plan. The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners have adopted this plan by resolution at their August 11, 2016 meeting.

FEMA has received a copy of the resolution of the adoption by the county and they sent a letter that has officially approved the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan (see attached).

The next step in this process is for the local units to also adopt this hazard mitigation plan. Enclosed in this packet is a resolution that you can use for the adoption of the plan. It is also asked that you please take action on this at your earliest convenience so that you will be covered by the plan and therefore they will be able to apply for hazard mitigation funds. Those local units who do not adopt the plan, will not be eligible for hazard mitigation funds.

Once the resolution is adopted and signed, please email or mail the signed resolution back to my office.

A printed copy of the plan is enclosed along with a digital copy for your reference. Or if you prefer a copy can be found at:

<http://www.tuscolacounty.org/sheriff/doc/Tuscola%20County%20Hazard%20Mitigation%20Plan%202016.pdf>

If you need additional information or have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the contact information listed above.

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Respectfully, 

Deputy Steven Anderson, E.S. Coordinator

MISSION STATEMENT: Tomorrow's Solutions to Today's Emergencies

A Division of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Leland Teschendorf

Undersheriff Glen Skrent

Mr. Matt Schnepf  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer  
Michigan State Police  
Emergency Management and  
Homeland Security Division  
P.O. Box 30634  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Schnepf:

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Region V  
536 S. Clark st., 6th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60605-1509

**FEMA**

AUG 22 2016

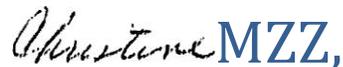
Thank you for ~~submitting~~the adoption documentation for the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan was reviewed based on the local plan criteria contained in 44 CFR Part 201, as authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Tuscola County met the required criteria for a multi-jurisdiction hazard mitigation plan and the plan is now approved for the County. Please submit the adoption resolutions for any remaining jurisdictions who participated in the planning process.

The approval of this plan ensures continued availability of the full complement of Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants. All requests for funding, however, will be evaluated individually according to the specific eligibility and other requirements of the particular program under which the application is submitted.

We encourage Tuscola County to follow the plan's schedule for monitoring and updating the plan, and continue their efforts to implement the mitigation measures, The expiration date of the Tuscola County Plan is five years from the date of this letter. In order to continue project grant eligibility, the plan must be reviewed, revised as appropriate, resubmitted, and approved no later than the plan expiration date.

Please pass on our congratulations to Tuscola County for this significant action. If you or the communities have any questions, please contact Christine Meissner at (312) 408-4460 or [christine.meissner@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:christine.meissner@fema.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,



Christine Stack, Director  
Mitigation Division

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

### Resolution for the adoption of the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Whereas Vassar Township, Michigan is vulnerable to a wide range of natural, technological and human-related hazards, and has experienced repetitive disasters that have caused loss of life, damaged commercial, residential and public properties, displaced citizens and businesses, closed streets and presented general health and safety concerns; and

Whereas Tuscola County has prepared a Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan that provides an understanding of those threats, identifies the hazards affecting the area,

discusses the county's vulnerability to the identified hazards, and outlines the community's options and strategies to reduce overall damage and impact from natural and technological hazards; and

Whereas the Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan represents the interests and needs of Vassar Township;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that:

The Tuscola County Hazard Mitigation Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of Vassar Township.

Passed the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016

By the Vassar Township Board

Authorized

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title:

Don Clinesmith wants marijuana back on the agenda. One resident told Don that there are 41 medical marijuana establishments in the township. Kendall stated that there wasn't much we could do. Don said that Caro has a moratorium which has been in place two years. Fred Welsh said that this was a deception since no work was being done to make a decision about the issue. Orv Hartung recommended we license these establishments. A fee of \$100 was proposed. Fred Welsh felt that would not be legal. There are other things we can do. We can become expert on the existing law. We should also look for violations of our existing zoning ordinances. Don Clinesmith mentioned the requested tax breaks requested by neighbors of marijuana establishments. Fred Welsh said tax



breaks are very difficult because of the number of these establishments in the township. Ben Partridge said that all of these producers are breaking federal law. They cannot pay taxes on this enterprise which is illegal under federal law. Any fee we assessed might be interpreted as taxes. Kendall said these producers are allowed to sell their overages. Fred Welsh said that the mirror image of the state law that our lawyer gave us would put us in the position of enforcing state law with our zoning administrator. Fred Welsh said that our citizens are asking for action on this. We can use

knowledge of existing law and our zoning ordinances to limit the disturbances of neighbors. Fred Welsh said the Planning Commission should check for violation of the law. If there is none, then we should leave producers alone. Kendall said the Planning Commission would keep this issue on the table. Fred Welsh said we could do something for our citizens by learning and enforcing zoning laws and the state law. Don Clinesmith said he would look into the issue at the Mackinac Center. Kendall Woodruff said he would do a study of the issue. Fred Welsh said he would also check on Medical Marijuana

#### Public Comment

Ben Partridge said no July minutes were in the folder. Fred Welsh said the July minutes are in the minute book. Fred makes copies for the Planning Commission Members. Fred Welsh also said he would give Ben a copy if desired.

Kendall Woodruff moved to adjourn. Fred Welsh supported. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm Next Meeting October 13, 2016 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted

Fred Welsh

Secretary Vassar Township Planning Commission