

Vassar Township Planning Commission Minutes (final)

Vassar Township Hall

March 9, 2017

Call to order 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chair Kendal Woodruff

Roll Call:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Erica Aymer	x		
Orv Hartung(vice-chair)	x		
Fred Welsh(secretary)	x		
Dan Zuzula	x		
Bill Gray	x		
Bob Reil		x	x
Kendal Woodruff (chair)	x		

Regular Meeting Minutes for February 09

Orv Hartung said Fred Welsh should be absent and excused. Erica Aymer said sherriff should be corrected. Bill Gray moved to accept with corrections. Orv Hartung seconded. Carried.

Trustee's Report

Included at end of report

Parks and Recreation will not report to Planning Commission in the Future

Fred Welsh will be liaison

Zoning Administrator's Report

Call on 2 pole barn permits. One denied.

Certified letter for blight

Old Business

Planning Commission documents will be in the bottom drawer in the file by the door that is farthest south. There was discussion on the locks. Kendall Woodruff reported on procedures for sending Master Plans to surrounding areas. Kendall will continue to help with the plan after he moves on to Zoning Administrator. The final draft copy has not been sent to surrounding townships at this point.

Kendall Woodruff spoke on the need to elect a new chairman since he is resigning. A new member will be appointed.

Several members spoke about the need for experience in the chair position.

MTA training classes from last year will still be available for the next year. These classes are currently scheduled. Nancy Zuzula said each class can be viewed only three times. Three different training sessions can be scheduled.

Marijuana Laws were discussed. Our township has to review our wishes under the new law. We have several growers in the township. Fred Welsh and Ben Partridge held different views on the requirement for small growers. Fred Welsh said the state is creating a paper trail for all medical marijuana. Kendall Woodruff said he could call the state for clarification on this issue. Fred Welsh said Fremont Township will not allow this. Vassar City plans to allow distributors.

The Commission discussed a business license/permit for starting a business. Bruce Foether asked about reviewing Special Land Use permits to be sure that they are not expired. There is no desire to make starting a business more difficult. Bruce Foether feels the permit should not cost the business. Ben Partridge said that businesses allowed in in the zoning ordinances have no need to contact the township. Several members spoke about the need to know what businesses are starting in the township.

Fred Welsh said that there is no regular process for reviewing special use records or requirements for how these records are kept and what information is kept on the records.

Michael Clinesmith said he retained some copies of special use permits, building permits and other records.

This issue requires more consideration. Kendall Woodruff will give marijuana informion to Fred Welsh.

Fred Welsh was informed by the MTA that attending meetings via SKYPE is allowed in Michigan. Voting on a ballot kept in the hall and marked by members coming in is a violation of the open meeting act. The public must be able to see public business when it takes place.

Public Comment

Kendall Woodruff said how much he enjoyed working on the Planning Commission. Ronda asked if the board sent a thank you card to Curtis Pennell. Mike Clinesmith thanked Kendall for his service.

Bill Gray moved to adjourn. Orv Hartung seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 pm

Next Meeting April 13, 2017 at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted

Fred Welsh

Secretary Vassar Township Planning Commission