

Porter Township  
Planning Commission  
April Regular Meeting Minutes  
April 7, 2021

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**Start Time:** 7:00 pm

**Members Present:** Doug Noble, Jr, John Miller, Andrew Nesbitt, Steve Cornish, Tim Seppala, Tonya Blanchard, Bob Angle, Heather Smith

**Members Not Present:** David Kindt

**Zoning Administrator:** Rich McGrew, present

**Approval of Agenda:** Heather Smith motioned to approve the agenda, Steve Cornish seconds and agenda is approved as written.

**Approval of Minutes:** Steve Cornish motioned to approve the March 3, 2021 regular meeting minutes, Tim Seppala seconds and March regular meeting minutes are approved as written.

**Citizens Comments:** None present.

**Correspondence:** Township Focus Magazines are available to anyone who is interested.

**Board Liaison Report:** Per Andrew Nesbitt, David Kindt attended the March Board meeting to express concerns with short term rentals and the lack of oversight caused by not having an ordinance in place. The Porter Township Board was in favor of the Planning Commission looking into creating an ordinance.

Andrew Nesbitt also reported that the township does not have any printed updates to the ordinance book. All current ordinances are available online at the Porter Township website. If he can find a way to print the whole document to update the ordinance books, he will do that.

**Zoning Admin Report:** Rich McGrew, Zoning Administrator, reports that he has been issuing a lot of building permits.

**ZBOA report:** Per Bob Angle, nothing new to report.

**Old Business:** David Kindt previously sent an email around to Planning Commission members with discussion topics and samples of Short Term Rental ordinances from 6 other Michigan townships. Discussion on if we have the infrastructure to handle such an ordinance and who would be responsible for permitting, inspecting, policing, and enforcing the ordinance. After reviewing the other ordinances, it was suggested that we use Silver Creek's ordinance as a starting point, as it has similar layout to our township's needs. Discussion on what the Planning Commission felt was important to our area, if this should require a Special Use Permit, and if the homes that fall under this should be required to pass an inspection. The Planning Commission will continue working on this ordinance next month, and will conduct an in depth comparison of ordinances to determine what applies to the needs of our township.

**New Business:** No new business

**Adjournment:** Bob Angle motions, Steve Cornish seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

**Next meeting:** May 5, 2021 at 7 pm.

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