

Porter Township
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2021

Start Time : Meeting began at 7:00 pm.

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

Members Absent: None.

Zoning Administrator : Rich McGrew, present.

Additions to Agenda : None

Approval of Agenda : Heather Smith approves, Steve Cornish seconds, all in favor, agenda approved as written.

Approval of Minutes : Andy Nesbitt motions to approve the June Regular Meeting Minutes as written, Heather Smith seconds. June Regular Meeting Minutes approved as written.

Correspondence : None received.

Citizens Comments : Devin Loker, Attorney and legal representative for the Docekales provisional center located at M-40 and CR 352. Mr. Loker was present to make the planning commission aware of some of the differences of the Marcellus Ordinance language as it pertains with Porter Township language in regards to the Adult Use Marijuana Ordinance. Mr. Loker was curious where the Commission stood on that process. Mr. Nesbitt, board liaison, indicated that the Board wants the Planning Commission to move forward on it, but that we are taking a closer look at the ordinance as it relates to Porter Township. We are more concerned about getting an ordinance that is not rushed. Our township attorney, Harold Schuitmaker, is converting some of the language and make it more conforming to Porter Township and it is consistent with the Medical Use Ordinance in Porter. It will require a public hearing.

Board Report : Andy Nesbitt, board liaison, indicated that the main topic at the last board meeting was the vacation short term rental ordinance. The sheriff representative said that if the ordinance was approved it would be enforced.

Old Business :

A. Old business discussed.

There was a continued discussion on the short term rental situation. The PC drilled down into the Silver Creek Township ordinance and went through each line and determined what can be incorporated from other townships in similar situations.

Bob Angle makes a motion to move the Short Term Vacation Rental Ordinance with corrections on to the Township Board for approval. Steve Cornish seconds, motion carries.

Dave Kindt, PC secretary to make some minor corrections on the ordinance as determined by the planning commission.

New Business :

A. No new business

Zoning Administrator report: Per Rich McGrew, a new variance came in that will require a meeting.

ZBOA Report : Bob Angle, present, no report.

Adjournment : Steve Cornish motions to adjourn, Heather Smith seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:03.

Next Meeting: August 4, 2021