

Porter Township
Planning Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 1, 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:

Zoning Administrator : Rich McGrew, not present.

Additions to Agenda :

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

Approval of Minutes : Steve Cornish motions to approve the August Regular Meeting Minutes as written, Tim Seppala seconds. August Regular Meeting Minutes approved as written.

Correspondence : None received.

Citizens Comments : Dekoncels were here in support of the marijuana adult use ordinance. Patricia Cover, and Priscilla Rogers from Gravel Lake were here in curiosity of the short term rental ordinance.

Board Report : Andy Nesbitt, board liaison, indicated that the main topic at the last board meeting was the vacation short term rental ordinance. That 90% of the inspection process will be removed, proof of insurance, and a nominal registration fee. Our supervisor, Chris Oxley would like the Planning Commission to move forward on the adult use marijuana ordinance. The ordinance would be very similar to the medical use marijuana ordinance language and the board is looking mostly for numbers on the number of permits/licenses the township is willing to allow. Gravel Lake approached the board regarding Mute Swans as an issue and the DNR will be the organization charged with removal.

Old Business :

A. Old business discussed.

There was discussion regarding the adult use marijuana ordinance. The board would like grow to remain indoors. The current medical ordinance has a lot of the language already written. The board would like the Planning Commission to

determine the amount of permits/licenses for each category. Language was discussed on the number of permits the board is willing to support. The discussion was tabled based on determining some of the details contained in the medical ordinance like it can only occur in commercial zones. The PC would appreciate 30 days to review the material and develop an informed motion to the board on the October meeting. Steve Cornish makes a motion to be able to go back and review the material in 30 days and be able to have questions answered by Rich McGrew to be able to provide the board a well researched, informed decision in the October meeting. Second by Andy Nesbitt, motion passes.

New Business :

A. Solar Farms are on the horizon.

Zoning Administrator report: No report, not present.

ZBOA Report : Bob Angle, present, no report.

Adjournment : John Miller motions to adjourn, Tanya Blanchard seconds, meeting adjourned at 8:35.

Next Meeting: October 6, 2021