

Manistee County Planning Building • 395 Third Street • Manistee, Michigan 49660

Thursday, July 27, 2023
6:15 pm

Planning Department Conference Room
395 Third Street, Manistee Michigan

MINUTES

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becker-Witt at 6:15 pm.

Members Present: Eleanor DeYoung, Glenn Zaring, Duane Jones, Ted Batzer, Phil Landis, Margaret Batzer and Mary Becker-Witt

Members Absent: None

Ex-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Szokola Planning Director, and Nancy Baker Planning Secretary/Assistant to Planner.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kesiree O'Brien MI DNR, Wayne Andersen and Joyce Dudel LMWCC, Renee Mallison Manistee CD, Amanda Buday GVSU, Dorothy Batzer Stronach Township resident, Jeff Dontz County Board Chair, zoom-Brian Bury DNR and Dana Castle

B. Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Landis moved, seconded by Mr. Batzer to approve the July 27, 2023, agenda as printed. Motion passed with a voice vote.

C. Public Comment.

None

D. New Business and Communications

Little Manistee Watershed Conservation Council (LMWCC)

Mike Szokola- introduced Joyce Durdel and acknowledged requested survey changes were made

Joyce Durdel LMWCC:

- ❖ Management plan in place 3 years ago to protect river
- ❖ 10-year guide goals to protect the river
- ❖ Major threat to river is land use/development in townships without zoning along the river
 - No buffers along rivers edge for protection

Discussion on following points:

- ❖ Property owners to receive survey
- ❖ Survey results will be made available

- ❖ Public meetings with attendance of LMWCC, GVSU, DNR etc. available to answer questions

Ms. DeYoung entered the meeting at 7:37 pm.

- ❖ Townships without zoning; 7-member review board of different representation would handle issues
- ❖ Enforcement; work with owners
- ❖ River maintenance
- ❖ Manistee County- 2 zoned townships along river; rest is state owned
- ❖ River's natural state attracts many users
- ❖ E. coli, sand erosion on state land
- ❖ Zoning superseding local zoning
- ❖ Sharing water quality practices
- ❖ Many variables cause riverbank changes
- ❖ Unbuildable parcels—assessors, variances
- ❖ Support survey program
- ❖ Educate before sending survey
- ❖ Un-zoned communities being the issue of erosion not zoned communities

Meeting break 7:52 – 7:58 pm.

E. House Keeping Business

Act to approve the June 22, 2023 Minutes.

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Batzer to approve the June 22, 2023, minutes as printed. Motion passed with a voice vote.

F. Unfinished Business and Reports.

1. Planning Department Update

Mr. Szokola:

- ❖ RR relocation moving forward
- ❖ City contract: planner not hired, no transition plan with the city, County Board does not support renewing the contract
- ❖ Contracts: Kaleva/Maple Grove presented quote for service cost, contracted entities quote for contract increase based completely on office and code enforcement workload

2. Meetings and Trainings Attended by Planning Commission Members

Ms. Batzer: attended Green Team meeting- Solid Waste Part 115 update, process, 180 days for notice of intent to prepare, collaborate with other counties and NWNW.

G. New Business & Communications

1. Commission and Department Committee List—July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 term

Mr. Batzer moved, seconded Mr. Jones to leave the Commission and Department Committee List as is for 2023-2024. Motion passed with a voice vote.

2. Other business from Planning Commission members or its staff

Mr. Zaring stated another code enforcement case was closed in Onekama Village taking the

count from 2 to 3.

H. Adjourn

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Ms. Batzer to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Baker

Nancy Baker, Recording Secretary, for

Eleanor DeYoung, Secretary, Manistee County Planning Commission

Date: July 27, 2023