

Minutes of the March 1, 2016 Meeting of the Manitowish Waters Planning Commission

Meeting called to order at 6:10 P.M. by Chairman Sleight following the conclusion of the two CUP public hearings.

Commissioners in attendance: Sleight, Rayala, Bauers, Hoehn, Behnke, Johns
Absent: Hanson
Also present: Zoning Administrator Thiessen

Public Visitors: Fred Wiedenbauer, Miles Firnhaber, Beverly Firnhaber, Dan Connaughty, Greg Holt, Matt Wittry, Kim Kost, Lisa Hopkins, Barry Hopkins, Tyrel Rayala, Kevin Griffith

Motion by Johns, second by Rayala, to approve agenda as posted and waive the reading.
Motion carried.

Public Comments/Correspondence

None

Motion by Bauers, second by Johns to approve the February 2, 2016 meeting minutes and the February 17, 2016 special meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Hopkins CUP application: Thiessen presented an aerial photo of the site and reported that there were no problems with impervious surfaces as it is more than 300 feet from the water. Motion by Johns, second by Rayala, to approve the application. Roll call vote:

Rayala: Aye Bauers: Aye Hoehn: Aye Behnke: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried.

Schwartz CUP application: Thiessen reported that the project meets the goal of the ordinance that the guest house is behind the main home and is no closer to the lot line than the existing building. The one neighbor that inquired about the project has no objections. Contractor Fred Wiedenbauer stated that the structure will no longer have any garage space, that blacktop will be removed, that the siding will be log with a fieldstone veneer. Septic will be a holding tank as the location does not perc. Motion by Bauers, second by Behnke, to approve. Roll call vote:

Rayala: Aye Bauers: Aye Hoehn: Aye Behnke: Aye Johns: Aye Sleight: Aye Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator's Report

Tree cutting/logging on Camp Jorn property: Dead and dying trees can be removed without a permit, but cannot issue a permit for the logging project as logging is not permitted in areas zoned Recreational. Matt Wittry of MW Forestry described the project as one of forest management as well as enhancing recreational opportunities for the Camp by adding to the trail system (among other possibilities) and camper safety by removing deadfall and dying trees. The logging of viable trees will subsidize the remainder of the project. The total volume of viable trees will be about 100 cord out of about 20 acres. Following discussion, it became the consensus of the Commission that a tree cutting permit cannot be issued for the project as described. The Commission will review the ordinance and consider the possibility of adding forest management as a conditional use in certain zoning districts.

Secretary's Report

Hoehn presented the Secretary's hours for approval. Motion by Rayala, second by Bauers, to approve. Motion carried, with Hoehn abstaining. No invoices were received.

Matters Relating to Donations to the Town

Bike trail relocation: Bauers reported that brushing and cutting has commenced.

Proposed bike trail sign: Still lacking information; no action.

Bike trail Fix-It locations: Behnke reported that Steven Bartling has fabricated a prototype of bike repair station – a hand pump and captive tools to be mounted on a 2'x2' concrete base. The proposal is to fabricate and install 5 of them along the bike trail, to be funded by the Big Cal program.

Commission to review proposed locations at the next meeting.

Furniture donation for Pavilion: No discussion or action

Relocating the Rest Lake Park boat ramp: Ty Rayala of the Parks and Trails Committee reported on proposals for constructing parking areas for the pavilion and boat trailer parking, and for moving the boat ramp. Several layouts were presented and discussed, with an eye to maintaining green space and erosion control. The discussion consensus was that the boat ramp should remain where it is. The Parks and Trails Committee will continue to develop the proposals.

Amendments to the Manitowish Waters Zoning Ordinance

Discussion on how to move forward on updating the ordinance as it relates to forest management and tree cutting for certain uses. Discussion on reviewing electronic signs and trail systems management.

Comprehensive Plan Update

No discussion or action.

Other matters for discussion

No matters brought up for discussion.

Next scheduled meeting April 5, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.

Meeting declared adjourned by Chairman Sleight. Time was 7:49 P.M.