

Minutes of the May 17, 2016 Special Meeting of the Manitowish Waters Planning Commission.

Meeting called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Chairman Sleight.

Commissioners in attendance: Sleight, Rayala, Bauers, Hoehn, Behnke, Hanson, Johns

Public Visitors: Deane Galloway, Joan Galloway, Barbara McFarland, John McFarland, Karen Dixon, Matt Wittry, Jan Richter, Randy Richter, Tom Joseph, Pat Murphy, Tom Lentz, John Butler, Kim Kost, Bud Arnold, Dick Pavlov, Greg Holt, Amy Kobussen, Rita Mazur, Chris Troller, Tyrel Rayala, Kevin Griffith, Bruce Mommaerts

Motion by Johns, second by Behnke, to approve Planning Commission agenda as posted and waive the reading.

Motion carried.

Public Comments/Correspondence

Question from John McFarland on who had seen the article in the Lakeland Times regarding funding for Rest Lake boat landing.

Amendments to the Manitowish Waters Zoning Ordinance Articles I – XIII

Presentation by, and question and answer session with, Matt Wittry of MW Forestry and Real Estate on how to encourage forest management and timber stand improvement in Manitowish Waters. No action proposed or taken.

Landscaping at Rest Lake Park

Landscaping plan for around the pavilion presented by Amy Kobussen. The area disturbed by construction is to be sodded near the pavilion and seeded at the perimeter to blend in with existing turf. The septic vent area is to be landscaped with boulders and ornamental grasses. Discussion resulted in the suggested changes of leaving the access road on the north end of the building in place; keeping the area as natural as possible by using native grasses and ferns, stone instead of bark mulch, and replacing the vinyl edging with something less conspicuous; and bringing in boulders into the area slated for cleanup as well as keeping it as natural as possible by leaving existing vegetation and adding ferns.

Motion by Behnke, second by Bauers, to recommend to the Town Board to accept the plan by Birchfield Nurseries with the suggested changes. Motion carried.

Commercial Corridor Plan and Comprehensive Plan Update

Hanson reported that the \$20,000 grant application was to be submitted to the WEDC by Grow North. Discussions with the two organizations resulted in the determination that the best approach would be to re-draft the proposal and submit it to the Grow North board in June and after July 1st to the WEDC for the next fiscal year.

Presentation by Bruce Mommaerts of Granite Development Resources. Discussion on potential effects of the delay in the grant approval in regard to consultant expenses and the motion approved May 3rd by the Planning Commission and Town Board, and currently unknown conditions that may be attached to the grant.

Review with Bruce Mommaerts of Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Goals for the 2016 update and the introduction of the concept of affordable "tiny housing", presently inconsistent with current zoning.

Other matters for discussion

No matters brought up for discussion.

Next scheduled meeting June 7, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. with a workshop immediately preceding at 6:30 P.M., followed by a special meeting on June 28th.

The Planning Commission meeting declared adjourned by Chairman Sleight. Time was 9:09 P.M.