

ARLINGTON TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

QUARTERLY MEETING

SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

Commissioners present: Chairman James Funke, David Holmes, Joe Wooding, Jeff Melvin, Martha Bregger

Other attendees: Ken Dettloff, John O'Connell, Brian Knotek

Meeting was called to order by Chairman James Funke at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jeff Melvin read the minutes from the June 7, 2017 meeting: David Holmes moved to accept the minutes as read with one spelling correction. Martha Bregger supported the motion. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

- No public forum for the Medical Marijuana Act was scheduled as the township Board has chosen to take no action on the issue.
- Brian Knotek noted that the Planning Commission only should address the issue if the Board decides to adopt the legislation.
- Ken Dettloff asked if it would be beneficial to include any of the language on the MMA as part of updating the township land use plan. Ken will draft plan language for consideration in case the Board changes their position in the future.
- Ken Dettloff reported that the township land use plan is almost complete.

New Business

- John O'Connell reported that it has been discovered that Maria's Lonestar Restaurant is zoned residential and not commercial. There was considerable discussion on this issue. Brian Knotek stated that a request to rezone needs to be initiated by the owner and that changing zoning should not be taken lightly. However, since this parcel would be essentially grandfathered, Ken Dettloff will include the parcels owned by Maria's in the new plan as commercial.
- There was also some discussion regarding the Zoning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Brian Knotek reviewed Article 8 of the by-laws which states that the Planning Commission is the Zoning Board.
- Chairman Funke discussed the subscription to the Planning and Zoning News. It was decided that one subscription would continue to be purchased and that the commission members would share it.

Public comments

- David Holmes reported that the Engel Farms Event Center situation regarding refuse was quickly addressed and the road is now pristine after events.

Handouts:

- Ken Dettloff – Update on Michigan Medical Marijuana Legislation and Potential Recreational Marijuana dated August 30, 2017
- New Medical Marijuana Laws Q & A by Catherine Mullhaupt, MTA Staff Attorney dated October 20, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman James Funke at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Melvin