

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
Minutes July 28, 2015

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Roll Call: Jon Soper, Chair John Parsons Vice Chair Excused
 Richard Schaefer, Excused Tom Hall, Member
 Steve Siira, Member Ned Huwatschek, Member
 Ray Chase, Commissioner
 Ann Gasperich Zoning Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S to approve the agenda with the additions of three letters, Mark McEvers, Helen Ryan and a follow-up letter from Doug Dawson by Ray & Steve, Passed

M/S to approve minutes of the regular meeting on June 30th with the correction of the spelling of Steve Rousers name by Tom & Ned, Passed

Guests: James Rovano spoke to the previous action by the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the garage at 7438 E Main Street that was never followed up on and the denial of the prosecuting attorney to take any further action. Copies of the letters he submitted from November 14, 2005 through January 4, 2007 will be attached to the minutes. He then voiced his complaint (under correspondence) of a current violation of the 'Pub' being used as a rental and asked the planning commission to review the ordinance for allowable uses of an accessory structure.

Public Comment --

Michelle Halley gave public comment voicing her concerns regarding the minutes of the Planning Commission and there were three violations of the zoning ordinance interpretation this weekend and wanted action against the violators.

Kathy McEvers gave public comment taking exception to a paragraph in a letter from Michelle Halley that was attached to the minutes of the previous month's meeting.

Jon Soper and Ray Chase both gave responses to the public comments regarding complaints and enforcement actions.

The ZA read the following letters:

Letter from Maureen Drzewicki
Letter from Doug Dawson (2)
Letter from Jim Rovano
Helen Ryan
Mark McEvers

Unfinished Business

Blueprint for Tomorrow Ann presented comments received to date and said that depending on the work load in the office the next final draft will be ready for review prior to the August meeting.

Owner on Premise vs No owner on Premise rentals (postpone)
Map Changes (postpone)
Short vs long term rental (postpone)

New Business

Jon Soper talked about the number of members for Planning Commission. We have each district represented as well as the school system. We are in compliance now with seven. We could add two or just stay where we are. After discussion there was no motion to add any others at this time.

Jon read the definition of family from the Keweenaw County Zoning Ordinance then the definition of family from the Eagle Harbor Ordinance and then read the definition of Tourist Home in the Eagle Harbor Ordinance. He asked that we all keep it in mind as it would go a long with our traditional use of a SFD.

Jon brought up the possible change of the word Resort to Rural in RR. After much discussion and audience participation it was determined no change was necessary. Clarification may be in order, but no change necessary.

The Zoning Administrator gave her report with special concerns regarding the qualification of single family dwellings and the need to review and rewrite that section as well as look to the section for special use permits and variances. Jon reviewed the building permits and commented on the number of new SFD's.

Jon asked for a cell tower update – Ann provided the information she recently obtained regarding the feature advanced calling that must be activated on the individuals phone in order to place and receive calls off of those two towers.

Ray commented on a possible new service provider that may be able to provide cellular service as well as internet off of existing towers all the way to Copper Harbor. He said the county was in talks and waiting for a contract.

Final Public Comments –

Michelle Halley spoke to the “Pub” and its history.
Mary Long also spoke to its history.

Commission Final Comments – there being none

August 25, 6:30 PM Next Regular Meeting

M/S to adjourn Ned/Ray at 7:49