

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
April 27, 2021

The meeting was called to order at the Keweenaw County Courthouse at 4:00 PM

Roll Call: John Parsons, Steve Siira Zoom from Home
 Barry Koljonen Dan Steck Zoom
 Jim LaMotte Absent
 Jim Vivian, Commissioner Absent Ann Gasperich, Administrator

4 Member quorum is present, meeting was appropriately posted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S John/Barry to approve the agenda as presented, passed.

M/S Steve/Dan to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 30, 2021 as presented, passed.

Guests: Pat Coleman was invited to speak to updating the ordinance. He gave a bit of background as to this ordinance. He mentioned the reason this ordinance was written had to do with the previous ordinance not being adequate for the ski hill in Lac La Belle. This ordinance went out for bids in 2004 and as a planning professional he had bid on the project. He recalled this ordinance was about a \$68,000 project. He took comments from the Commissioners regarding their concerns. Some of the areas mentioned were do we have to many zoning districts, is Eagle River the same as Ahmeek? Should we allow duplexes in residential areas...historically they have been there for years. Do we want more flexibility in residential? Should we have form-based zoning for some areas where 'how it looks' may be more important than what is inside. Solar and wind need to be included. He reminded us that zoning does not hinder growth, as a prime example, take a look at Houghton. He will present a proposal for the next meeting.

Public Comment

Communications:

New Business

Direction from the Board of Commissioners. John and Dan reported on the Commissioners meeting. Both agreed it went well. It is important to gather input from the commissioners, townships and public.

What are our options, the Next Steps, time and financial considerations. The proposal from Pat is our next step. It can be presented to the Board of Commissioners for discussion. Pat asked if he could include support in the WORD document from Ann, which would lower the overall cost of the office time. Ann agreed and will support the changes as she can. Dan mentioned he'd help as well. He also wanted to have active links in the new ordinance.

Unfinished Business

Review of letters of interest for additional Planning Commission Members. It was recommended to hold interviews as was done in the past. We will try to schedule the interview for the meeting we set to review the proposal.

Report from the ZBA – Steve informed the Commission there will be a public hearing in May to review two projects, Borlee in Lake Medora and Fortin in Gay.

The Zoning Administrator’s Report – The season has begun. Permits are happening.

Final Public Comments - None

Commission Final Comments -- none

Next Meeting May 25, 4:00 PM

M/S Barry/Steve to adjourn at 5:25.