

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
February 16, 2021

Keweenaw County Courthouse 4:00 PM

Roll Call: John Parsons, Kalamazoo Steve Siira, home
 Barry Koljonen, home Dan Steck home
 Jim LaMotte, home
 Jim Vivian, Absent
Ann Gasperich, Courtroom,

5 Member quorum is present, and the meeting was appropriately posted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S LaMotte/Steck to approve the agenda removing public hearing from the next item. All in favor, passed.

M/S Siira/LaMotte to approve minutes of the regular meeting on January 26, 2021. All in favor passed.

Guests: Garret Hartwig and Dale Sulak

Public Comments -- None

Communications: Email from Brad Neumann, moved to unfinished business

New Business

Additional Planning Commission Member was discussed. The Commission is shy on members from Sherman and Grant Township. We will wait to hear from the Board of Commissioners if they are going to appoint anyone to the Commission. If not, we will canvass and most likely place an add in the newspaper or reach out again to the Townships for recommendations.

The Private Road Application was reviewed. When John and Ann worked on the section in the ordinance, this was touched on but never brought to the Commission for approval. The rough draft had been submitted to the County Engineer for his input, he said it looked acceptable. **M/S Parsons/LaMotte** to approve the application and submit to the County Board of Commissioners for their approval. Roll call vote taken, Parsons, yes, LaMotte, Yes, Siira, yes, Steck, yes, Koljonen, yes, motion passed.

Unfinished Business

Email from Brad Neumann was discussed, (attached to the minutes) regarding the possibilities for the 65-acre parcel currently zoned M-1 along and South of the US 41 Corridor between Ahmeek and Mohawk. Ann asked all Planning Commissioners review the allowable use for M-1 and think about the future of the corridor. If a bakery opens, a restaurant in the old mining building, what if someone wanted to build a small motel. For the next meeting, lets look at the potential for that section, and look to conditional uses that may be appropriate.

Currently M-1 is found in Gay, the sands area, Mohawk Sand and Gravel has M-1 in the Kingston area as well as other smaller tracks behind New Allouez and Ahmeek. Any change to M-1, will impact those locations as well.

Report from the ZBA – Siira reviewed the 2020 report with regards to the public hearings held during the year. He noted the Borlee request will happen when the weather gets nicer and COVID-19 restrictions for in person meetings are lifted.

The Zoning Administrator’s Report Ann mentioned she has made contact with a zoning and codes person downstate. He will send her their zoning ordinance as well as that of a few of the neighboring townships. They all vary on their requirements.

Final Public Comments – Dale thanked us for the zoom meeting, and appreciated the 2020 zoning and codes report.

Commission Final Comments – Dan asked about the alternative energy post card received. John said that the woman who runs the program, Melissa Davis, has been working with alternative energy, for home and business for years.

Next Meeting March 30th 4:00 PM

There being no further comments **M/S Parsons/Siira** to adjourn at 4:50