

GRANT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2018

PRESENT: John King, Tim Martis, Diana Ludlow; Chair, Edith Elsenheimer, Pamela Hawley and Kim Martens

ABSENT: Laura Rodriguez Irwin

Note: Joe Newton has been added to the Planning Commission effective 4/19/18 but has not yet been sworn in.

The board members read and reviewed the minutes from the March meeting individually.

Tim Martis made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Edie. All were in favor and the motion passed.

PURPOSE:

Review of current items on docket.

- Wedding Barns: Our ordinance will need to be updated to include wedding venues. The board feels that at this time they do not want to venture into this area as it caused more issues that are negative rather than having a positive impact on community. According to our current ordinance, these venues are not allowed. There is a township resident asking for change and our planner has supplied us with an example of Barn Venue ordinance for review. Diana proposed that we not go forward with allowing wedding barn venues within the township. Tim made a motion that the board perform a roll call vote on the allowance of barn venues, seconded by Edie. All were in favor.
- Roll call vote was unanimously denied by all board members.
- All ordinances for the township are in need review and updating as it has been discovered that the latest changes were not recorded. Our planner will review all current ordinances for updates/change needs which will then be submitted to Township Board for approval
- The board discussed the pro's/cons of proposal presented in March by Dan Welch and what could be some solutions to residents needs for inexpensive housing. The board feels that there are too many loop holes in the proposal to move forward or for the board to make recommendations without more information.
- "R" Farm is currently operating out of their home, which has been OK's as a home occupation. It can be sold along with vegetables, fruit, honey, etc if it is produced on the farm, however, no township approval has been obtained by the

farm owner. Update on GAMP certification: Farm produced goods need an approved sink area for cleaning and as they are using their garage, there must be a wall to separate the sales area from vehicles.

- Board discussed the need for development of an ordinance for Hess Lake properties being rented by the week/weekend. There have been complaints from neighbors that renters are having loud parties with many vehicles parking on roadways.

Next Hearing:

Ouwinga Farm – Special Use permit for an indoor horse arena/storage building which would consist of a 100 x 180 riding arena, 100 x 60 storage area and a 15' breezeway connecting the new building to existing barn. There will also be a 12 x 26 shed type roof located over an 18 x 14 overhead entrance door.

Hearing date will be June 21, 2018 at 7 pm.

Tim Martis made the motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm, seconded by Edith Elsenheimer. All in favor and meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Gladys VeltKamp

Grant Township Clerk