

**Lake County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes**

October 18, 2011

1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Van Dolsen at approximately 2:35 p.m.

2) Roll Call

Present: Don Arquette, Colleen Carrington, Linda VanDolsen, Gwen Warren, Craig Davis, Larry Collier (Commissioner Liaison), Susan Dennis (USDA, Rural Development Specialist)

3) Approval of Minutes of September 20, 2011

Motion was made by Don Arquette to accept the minutes with corrections. Seconded by Gwen Warren.

4) Correspondence

Shelly Myers, Lake County Clerk, forwarded an email from Erin Kuhn, WMSRDC Project Director, seeking projects to be included in the 2012 CEDS document. Chairperson Van Dolsen will let Shelly know that Lake County does have one participant. Pleasant Plains has a project, Industrial Park, that will be included in this document.

Susan Dennis and Don Arquette are planning to attend the October 26, 2011 WMSRDC meeting. Any others that would like to attend should contact Erin Kuhn.

4) Old Business

A letter a support was given to Paul Bigford, Supervisor of Sweetwater Township signed by Patrick Johnson, Vice President of the Lake County Planning Commission approving the rezoning request. This action was approved by the board during the August 20, 2011 meeting.

5) New Business

Master Plan

An Initial Draft of the Master Plan (Introduction and Chapters 1-4) was reviewed and discussed. Larry Collier brought in his laptop which allowed the board to view the projected document on the screen. Each of the four chapters were discussed which included the demographics.

Susan reminded the Planning Board that she is here to assist. Although she completed the initial draft, the work of compiling and formatting the collected data and information is the responsibility of the Planning Board.

A motion was made by _____ for Chairperson VanDolsen to contact Seth Hopkins and ask if he could assist by compiling and formatting the information collected to complete the Master Plan document. A suggestion was made to contact Ferris State and find out if someone in the honors program could provide this service.

An incomplete listing of Lake County Civic Organizations was distributed along with a listing of Lake County townships and officials. Board members will fill in blanks for organizations and townships.

Airport Expansion

Dave Sanders made a presentation and answered questions regarding the benefits of expanding the airport. There was discussion regarding these benefits. Don Arquette made a motion to support the expansion of the airport. Gwen Warren seconded the motion. Motion passed. Craig Davis abstained pending more information.

6) Ongoing Projects

Completing Community Assessment Exercises are still needed as the first step. Susan stressed the importance of this being completed because the master plan is community driven.

Susan distributed two documents and requested that the board read and become familiar with the information.

Handbook 5: Implementation & Benchmarking Methods

An excerpt from Introduction--Strategic Planning, Step 3 – Choosing issues and Opportunities

7) Next Meeting Thursday, November 10, 2011 at 10:00am