

Lake County Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

16 August 2011

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chair L. Van Dolsen at 2:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call: Pledge was recited. Members present were L. Van Dolsen, C. Carrington, G. Warren, P. Johnson. Members absent: D. Arquette, Larry Collier. Also attending was S. Dennis from USDA.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as corrected. Motion made by G. Warren, seconded by E. Kerans; passed unanimously.

Old Business: Lake County Board of Commissioners appointed Craig Davis to fill the vacancy on the LCPC. He will be replacing Bill Gillard and will cover Sauble and Sweetwater townships, and his area of interest is tourism and recreation. L. Van Dolsen will meet with Mr. Davis and fill him.

New Business: Michael Applewhite and Dave Fowler of Lake County Emergency Management and Homeland Security and Paul Forrest of the U. S. Forest Service discussed fire suppression and disaster preparedness with the commission. The most likely disasters to befall Lake County are forest fire and flood. The county and U.S. Forest Service have been working together to do an inventory and assessment for the fire suppression and safety effort in Lake County. Michael Applewhite had, at a previous meeting, submitted his Lake County Firewise Assessment which is part of the overall Community Wildfire Protection Plan for 2011. There has been an ongoing community outreach on fire suppression and safety.

Lake County is the first county in Michigan to complete their fire suppression plan, and their plan is being used as a model by other counties. Airport renovation is important to the county's disaster preparedness. Airport renovation is also important to prisoner transport and future economic development. Dave Fowler requested a letter of support from the Lake County Planning Commission for the airport renovation. Lake County is also part of a 13 county regional project to give and receive mutual aid in a major forest fire situation. In case of a major fire, the local first responders would be first on the scene, and would fall back once state and federal resources arrived.

New Business (cont'd.): The commission received a letter from Lake County Board of Commissioners Chairman Robert Meyers. They would like to see a draft master plan by October 1st. The LCPC asked the chair, L. Van Dolsen to respond to Chairman Meyers with a schedule of our activities and our deadlines. LCPC's deadlines are as follows:

Community Assessment Exercises for Townships-9/30/11

Community Assessment Exercises for Subgroups-10/30/11

Draft Master Plan to county commissioners by 12/1/11

Ongoing Projects: LCTOA will meet on 8/25, Pere Marquette Watershed Council will meet 9/3, Lake Countyousing Commission and the Village of Baldwin will have their respective meetings on 9/12, Lake County Riverside Property HOA will meet 9/17. Community Assessment Exercises Cherry Valley and Pinora Townships will be held on 9/13 and 9/14, respectively.

Goals and Assignments for 20 September 2011 Meeting: The following individuals will do a draft of the following sections from the 1998 Land Use Plan:

Patrick Johnson-Sections 1-1 through 1-8 and 1-10

Gwen Warren-Section 1-9 and 3-1 (points of contact for health related services and transportation)

Linda Van Dolsen-Sections 2-1 through 2-6 and 2-9 through 2-10

Don Arquette- Section 2-7

Craig Davis-Sections 4-1 through 4-8 (will do Lake County Recreation inventory)

Ellen Kerans-Sections 5-1 and 5-2 (list all existing programs at post secondary schools and give list of historical societies)

Colleen Carrington-Provide a complete list of townships with their current members and their contact information so we can update our info. Do the

same for all civic organizations and find out how they communicate with each other and their members.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted:

Linda J. Van Dolsen, Chair

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