

Lake County Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2011

1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Susan Dennis, Area Specialist for the US Department of Agriculture. She announced that she would facilitate the meeting until officers were elected later in the agenda. From now on, she will be a resource for the committee.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call

Present: Don Arquette, Larry Collier, Susan Dennis, Bill Gillard, Patrick Johnson, Ellen Kerans, Linda Van Dolsen, Gwen Warren, Ken Wenzel

4) Code of Conduct and Oath

All present signed the Code of Conduct. Documents put on file.

5) Brief Introduction of Each Participant

Each member explained his/her relationship with the area of expertise for which participant was chosen.

6) Election of Officers – Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Deputy Secretary

Committee elected:

Chair: Linda Van Dolsen

Vice Chair: Patrick Johnson

Secretary: Ellen Kerans

Deputy Secy: Bill Gillard

7) Assignment of Terms & Townships

Susan used playing cards to assign terms. If a vacancy occurs on the committee, it will be filled for the unexpired amount of time left on committee member leaving. Each November, ads will be placed for expiring terms, with the new appointments beginning each December 30 for a three year term. Members then volunteered for townships to research and bring resources back for the next meeting.

Don Arquette: 1 year term; Elk and Peacock

Bill Gillard: 2 year term; Sauble and Sweetwater

Patrick Johnson: 3 year term; Chase, Cherry Valley, Pinora

Ellen Kerans: 3 year term; Pleasant Plains, Lake

Linda VanDolsen: 1 year term; Eden and Ellsworth

Gwen Warren: 2 year term; Webber and Yates

Ken Wenzel: 3 year term; Dover and Newkirk (North and South)

8) Establish Interim Meeting Date and Time

Discussion concerning the need for more frequent meetings: Committee concluded that, in lieu of research desired for next meeting, that once a month was sufficient for now. Meetings will be held the third Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. in the County Commissioner's Room in the County Building. The next meeting is: **APRIL 19 at 4 p.m.**

9) Overview of Responsibilities and Community Development Planning Methods (Susan Dennis)

Dennis recommended that committee members go to <http://ntweb11a.ais.msu.edu/luaoe/index.asp> to view the land use series, written by MSU. Collier recommended the Lake County web site: www.lakecounty-michigan.com for local information.

Dennis requested that all members:

1. Make contact with assigned townships, explaining that this process is about public input and that consensus will drive the county Master Plan.
 - Develop list of key stakeholders within assigned township (representing government, community activists, church leaders, etc), having a minimum of five names for each township.
 - Bring copy of Master Plan for each represented township, if one is available or has been done.
2. Review planning ordinance for Lake County
3. Review existing Land Use plan (on CD)

10) Review of By-Laws and Discussion

Dennis recommended that by-laws be reviewed and completed at next meeting.

11) Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned by 5 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Kerans
Secretary