

Lake County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2011

1. **Call to Order.** Meeting was called to order by Chair Linda VanDolsen at 2:30 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call:**
Present: Chair Linda VanDolsen, Patrick Johnson, Gwen Warren, Larry Collier, Donald Arquette, Bill Gillard, colleen Carrington, Gwen Warren, Ellen Kerans
Guests: Susan Dennis, Norm Grinnel, Gus Motzer, Tony Gagliardo
4. **Approval of Minutes from June 21, 2011.** Minutes were approved with the spelling correction of SWOT (not SWAT). Member Johnson moved; Member Arquette seconded. Unanimous.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. **Finalization of by-laws.**
Discussion as to whether there were any more changes/corrections. Hearing none, Chair Vandolsen called for a vote. The by-laws were adopted as amended in the may meeting. Member Johnson moved; Member Gillard seconded. Unanimous vote to approve. Secretary Kerans will send (electronically) copies to all members.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Presentations**
 1. **Norm Grinnel: Environmental Sanitation Department**
-Mr. Grinnel discussed on-site sewage disposal issues. He stated that mobile homes have been redirected to the Building Department for inspection. He enforces all environmental codes, as well as food service codes. He receives many complaints about substandard rental properties, and issues citations, but enforcement is tough. It costs about \$3,500 to demolish a dwelling.
 2. **Tony Gagliardo: Director, Building Department and Soil Erosion Agent**
Mr. Gagliardo noted that there are not enough “decent” structures. His issue is to maintain building safety, and many people don’t want to follow the building codes, creating a safety hazard. The rules benefit us all. He is currently creating a “rustic cabin” code for smaller structures. Mr. Gagliardo also noted that there is little funding to back up threat of condemnation of a building from the county, and only two townships work with the county to follow up: Webber and Newkirk.
 3. **Gus Motzer, Director, Board of Equalization**
Mr. Motzer will provide maps to the Committee of the types of properties (commercial, residential, national and state land, etc). He can provide overlays at a cost of approximately \$1,000 an overlay. He agreed that taking the township maps TO each township for review would be the most efficient way to update the 1998 map. He will provide the % of each type of land use so the committee can evaluate and recommend planning for future growth and revenue.

Discussion about “Section 8” homes not being adequately inspected. Susan Dennis will check on this issue.

Discussion about the future health of area lakes, especially the larger ones with many residents (Bass Lake, Big Star Lake, Wolf Lake) took place. Many options were explained, including having a smaller system for each lake. Susan Dennis will provide contacts for the Michigan Rural Water Association, which will provide information about these potential systems. This is a topic that may become an issue in the future, and the Planning Commission is vitally interested in it. Member Johnson will be the “point person” for this topic.

b. Automated Phone Survey

Susan Dennis had done some research and gave the members a series of potential questions. CityWatch will conduct the phone surveys throughout the county at no charge to the committee. The committee discussed the questions in depth, and finalized them (attached).

ON-GOING PROJECTS

a. Scheduling of Community Meetings

Chair VanDolsen encouraged all Commission members to continue to schedule SWOT meetings. Susan Dennis will try to attend many of them.

b. Input from Meetings Already Held

Chair VanDolsen asked for input, but this community outreach is still in its beginning stages, so there was not much discussion.

GOALS FOR NEXT MEETING (July 20, 2011)

a. Presentations

Chair VanDolsen will contact someone from the Lake County Road Commission, Mac McClellan and Dave Fowler as potential presenters. Their time will be limited.

b. Committee will begin to outline the Master Plan, basing it on Mason County's plan.

9. ADJOURNED

Member Johnson made motion; member Gillard seconded. Unanimously approved at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Kerans