

Lake County Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2015

- 1) Meeting called to order at 3:03 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 3) Roll Call: Present Commissioner Colleen Carrington-Atkins, Tom Ellis, , Gwendolyn Warren, Ernest Wogatzke, and Seth Hopkins Absent: Kelly Weaver and Don Arquette
- 4) Tom E. 2nd by Commissioner Carrington-Atkins to approve agenda. Motion carried.
- 5) Tom E. made motion to approve minutes from May meeting, 2nd by Commissioner Carrington-Atkins and motion carried
- 6) Ongoing Business
 - a. Planning Commission Member Assignment-a paper on the duties of the Lake County Planning Commission as identified by the By-laws was given to each member present. Each duty was described with responsible member of the Commission. Discussion ensued on each description.
 - i. Public at Large (Gwen Warren)- Targeted at Seniors and low income. Duties as identified by the By-laws. Discussion ensued on how to go about implementing the duties. References were made that included the Master Plan needed to be part of the implementation (Master Plan has to be re-done/updated in 3 years). Discussion continued about the lack of services for low income residents, including sub standard housing. Question raised about what can Planning Commission do to address substandard housing in Lake County. Gwen is planning on working on issues that affect low income residents and seniors
 - ii. Forestry and Agriculture (Don Arquette)-Member representative not present at time so decided to skip discussion at this time
 - iii. Government (Commissioner Colleen Carrington-Atkins)- As stated in duties papers/By-laws. Discussion ensued about definition of "county chapter" as stated in duties. Currently, there is an issue about between County employees as Union and Non-Union members and equal benefit plans. There will be a new Equalization Officer hired.
 - iv. Education (Kelly Weaver)- Member representative not present at time so decided to skip discussion at this time
 - v. Recreation and Tourism (Ernie Wogatzke)- Discussion ensued about snowmobile ticketing and trails. More events need to be held to bring in more tourists to town.
 - vi. Economic Development (Seth Hopkins)- Need to try and find out more about what is happening with the County Economic Development Committee. Currently the Committee is working with West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission to get an economic development grant. Business Development Association of Lake County is working with Connect Michigan to conduct a follow up survey on highspeed internet service. In addition, there are various economic development and business classes that are available to Lake County.
 - vii. Health (Tom Ellis)-Discussion ensued about working with Health Department and Village of Baldwin, Webber, Yates on their water and sewer systems. In addition, become more knowledgeable on environmental and health reports and regulations.

Gwen Warren made a motion to change agenda to add suggested updates to By-laws 2nd by Commissioner Carrington Atkins.

- 7) Suggested Update to By-laws-Duties and By-laws need to align with work for Master Plan. We all need a By-laws and Master plan to work on updating the duties of the Members of the Commission. Updating these duties will be a task for future meetings.
- 8) Blight Grants-It was decided that there needs to be some research on what blight grants have been applied for in the past. Discussion ensued on what the Commission's role and what/how the condemned/blight happens. Also discussion ensued on the process of acquiring properties. Like many other "issues" within the County discussion ensued that the Commission just needs to be aware of what is happening, in the case that we have a role to play at some time in the future, but it is not necessarily our job to apply for grants or manage programs.
- 9) Public Comment-No Comments
- 10) **Next Meeting-Monday, July 20, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.**
- 11) **Adjournment-Motion by Gwen Warren, 2nd by Commissioner Carrington-Atkins, motion carried.**
Adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Seth Hopkins, Secretary Planning Commission