

ALAMO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Proposed for Minutes December 1, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Alamo Township Planning Commission was held Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance. The following members were present: Al Sweitzer, Ron Feniger, Paula Baker, Belden Smith, and Karen DeVries.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

Minutes of the previous meeting held Nov. 3, 2009 were approved as submitted on motion by Member Baker, seconded by Member Sweitzer. CARRIED.

Members David Veenstra and Helen Goyings were excused from this meeting on motion by Member DeVries, seconded by Member Baker. CARRIED.

Member Smith presented opportunity for the Planning Commission members to attend the Michigan State Extension Citizen Planner Course January 27 – March 17, 2009. The Township is willing to pay the registration fee and all new members are encouraged to attend.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Comment was presented in email form from Barbara Fisher stating her concern with the Planning Commission rotating secretary arrangements and that location of original signed minutes, attachments and agendas is not clear.

Motion by Member Sweitzer and seconded by Member Baker to amend Planning Commission bylaws h of section 2 to read:

Public Records. All meetings, minutes, records, documents, correspondence and other materials of the Planning Commission *shall be retained by the Township Clerk* and open to public inspection in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, except as may otherwise be provided by law.

Roll call vote was taken: Member Sweitzer – yes
 Member Feniger – yes
 Member Baker – yes
 Member Smith – yes
 Member DeVries – yes
 CARRIED

secretaries
All acting ~~clerk~~s of 2009 are instructed to bring a signed copy of approved minutes they scribed, along with any documents of record for their corresponding months, to the January, 2010 meeting.

REPORT FROM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Nothing new to report.

LAND USE PLAN COMMITTEE REPORTS

Land Coverage – Jean Talanda supplied notes and documents from her work on the Land Use Plan from 1995 – 1998. Most of the land cover analysis was done by the Geographic Information System Research Center, College of Arts & Sciences at Western Michigan University. Since that department no longer exists it will not be possible to gain access to their exact process and replicate it. Barbara Fisher continues gathering the number of building permits issued since information was last updated.

We will attempt to keep track of current changes happening in the Township and continue to research ways to complete a more qualitative analysis.

We agreed to update the narrative and citizen survey sections and include the report from the Kalamazoo County Road Commission for the Land Use Plan March, 2010 deadline. We will abandon the current attempt to update the land coverage section for the current report as digitalized data does not seem to be available at this time.

PARK DEFINITION

It is our intention to amend the Zoning Ordinance to define the word park. Member Baker and Member Feniger volunteered to meet with the Township Parks Board to gain their *representatives* input before we create a final definition.

The meeting was adjourned on motion by Member Baker, seconded by Member Smith.
CARRIED 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen DeVries
Acting Secretary