

WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP

7644 Durham Rd., Whitehall 49461

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2024

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1800 by Sharon Sikkenga, Chairperson.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Planning Commission Members Present: Kathy Dusseau, Amy Rusin, Sharon Sikkenga, Tom Zmolek. Also present: Arnie Erb, Supervisor. Absent: Connie Bonner, Carmen Rodriguez.

IV. Agenda Approval

Motion made by Rusin and supported by Sikkenga to approve agenda as written. Motion carried all in favor.

V. Approval of Minutes from April 2024

Motion by Dusseau to approve meeting minutes from April 10, 2024, as submitted and second by Zmolek. Motion carried all in favor.

VI. Public Comment regarding agenda and non-agenda items – none

VII. Unfinished Business

a. Readoption of current Master Plan Review

- i. Sikkenga relayed recommendations from Brian Mulnix of the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC). Mulnix recommended the Commission re-adopt the Master Plan as written, then take time to review and revise.
- ii. Erb commented that the focus and overall plan for the Township has not changed, only the data and details may require modification.
- iii. Sikkenga stated it may take months to complete the revisions as there may be other business or site plans reviews each month.
- iv. Zmolek inquired on whether it would be best to consolidate the supplements into a cohesive plan or produce another supplement with the updates. Erb will make the inquiry to Mulnix on best practice.
- v. Dusseau suggested the cost for producing an updated Master Plan or supplement should be included in the Township budget.

- b. Motion by Dusseau to readopt Master Plan with current supplements and continue to work on updating, supported by Zmolek. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 4-0, all in favor.
- c. Master Plan Review Progress - Rusin presented her recommendations.
 - i. Page 29, Rusin inquired if zoning districts have changed. Sikkenga noted that names appeared to have changed on the different maps. Dusseau mentioned there is a "Brownfield" on the "Future Map." Zmolek stated "Brownfield" is a funding term and not necessarily a zone.
 - ii. Page 32, the Commission should include goal under *Preservation of Natural Features* as the community has continued to express in meetings over the last couple of years the importance of nature and water resources.
 - iii. Page 34, *Parks, Recreation, and Community Center* goal mentions bike paths and a community center, we should continue this vision. Hilt's Landing is discussed in the *Recreation Plan*, should the Master Plan include making this more accessible? Sikkenga stated accessibility in this Township has been challenging, however, the supplement includes sidewalk installation for businesses.
 - iv. Page 36, Pickle ball courts and parking lot surfacing at the Township Hall have been completed, recommend to be removed from objectives.
 - v. Page 48, under *Housing Recommendations* percentage data needs to be updated.
 - vi. Zmolek will present at the next meeting.

VIII. New Business

- a. Dusseau noted that Big John's Pizza had announced they would be moving into the Township in August, however, the Planning Commission has not been asked to review the site plan. The Commissioners agreed it would be appropriate to approach the business reminding them to submit their site plan.
- b. Bonner will be moving out of the Township. The new treasurer will take her place on the Commission.

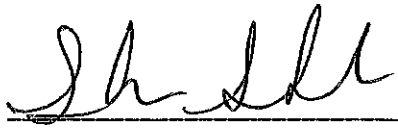
IX. Correspondence – none

X. Announcements

- a. Next meeting: Wednesday, June 5, 2024

XI. Adjournment

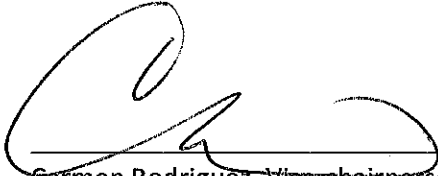
Motion was made by Dusseau and supported by Zmolek to adjourn. Motion carried all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1903.



Sharon Sikkenga, Chairperson

6/5/2024

Date



Carmen Rodriguez, Vice-chairperson

6/5/24

Date



Amy Rusin, Secretary

6/5/2024

Date