**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, February 3, 2016**

**7:00 p.m.**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Dan Steiner, Tom Sheneman, Linda Cran.

Absent: None

Also present: Stephen Barnard, FHT Zoning Administrator, Sue Mahan and Tom Frey

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Paul Trumble at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

The Chairman requested public comment. There was none.

**AGENDA**

 It was moved by Doug Dewey, seconded by Tom Sheneman that the Agenda be approved as written. Motion carried – Unanimous.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE – Stephen Barnard**

He reported that he recently was back into court with Mr. Bacon. Although he has complied with the moving of the two (2) structures and has picked up some of the junk in his yard he has not fully complied with their agreement. Taking into consideration that the weather conditions does create problems with the cleanup, unfortunately Mr. Bacon continues to be difficult to work with and has conflict with the Townships meaning of views of full compliance. He reported that he will provide an update on this matter at the next meeting. A new complaint has been received at a site located on Driftwood Lane and that he will complete his review and provide a report if necessary at the April meeting. A site visit was conducted at the Hershey property located on Clam Lake Road for a guest house use permit. The permit was issued due to the lack of minimum square footage ~~was~~ in the zoning ordinance, hence making the permit application compliant with the ordinance.

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA – Update**

Linda Cran reported that she did not have any new information to report.

Stephen Barnard reported that HB 4219 proposes that the State of Michigan handle all licensing and that they be responsible for notifying the Townships if a license is being requested.

The commission continues to discuss the matter for when or if a request is made to the Township that our responsibility lies in the standards of the Zoning Ordinance.

**MINUTES**

It was moved by Dan Steiner, seconded by Tom Sheneman that the minutes of the January 6, 2016 minutes be approved as written. Motion carried – Unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Paul Trumble reported that the FHT Zoning Ordinance proposed amendments for the Guest House definitions and standards had been recommended to the FHT Board for approval was discussed at the Thursday, January 7, 2016 FHT Board meeting and that no action was taken. The Supervisor was not present and the remaining Board agreed not to act on the amendment without him being present. Since that date without the proposed language and standards applicant Mr. Hershey submitted his request for a Guest House permit and the permit was issued. Discussion followed.

Sue Mahan, FHT Clerk clarified that the FHT Board would be taking action at their meeting February 4, 2016.

It was agreed that the Planning Commission had serious concerns over the lack of action by the Board to approve the proposed amendments has recommended for language, definitions and standards to permit Guest Houses. No action caused a permit to be issued that would not have qualified under the previous standards.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Sheneman asked if a property owner zoned in the Agriculture District wanted to set up a licensed kitchen to sell their products could they allow other growers to rent their kitchen. Discussion followed.

**OTHER:**

Stephen Barnard, FHT Zoning Administrator announced that he will miss the next meeting as he will be on vacation.

Discussion on the new lights placed at Eckhardt Road and Clam Lake.

The Chairman asked for Public Comment: Tom Frey stated that he is a little confused on what the Planning Commission does in comparison to the Board and that Dean Crandall stated that he would be at tonight’s meeting to discuss the Guest House Amendments with the commission. Discussion followed.

The next regular meeting is March 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

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Chairman, Paul Trumble Secretary, Linda Cran