

**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 6, 2017**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Dan Steiner, Linda Cran and Tom Sheneman
Absent: None.
Also present: Stephen Barnard, John and Fay Kirkpatrick,Carolynn Nichols, Barbara Carton, Sue Mahan, Dave Berg and Hannah Berg.

Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:00 P.M.

AGENDA:

It was moved by Sheneman, seconded by Cran that the agenda be approved as amended.
Motion carried – all present voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chairman requested Public Comment. John and Fay Kirkpatrick spoke on their research to determine the exact location of their septic and drainfield. They have been to both the Health Department and the Building Department and have learned that the records vary on the locations. The home was built in 1987 with the Building Department records identifying home on property that is not exactly where the home was built. They will use a probe to identify the exact location of septic and drainfield and will report back. Public comment closed.

It was moved by Cran, seconded by Steiner that the minutes of meeting dated August 2, 2017 be approved as corrected. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR – UPDATE:

Happy Town Campground

The Antrim County Building Department called to notify the township that additions are being built on and around a structure without permits at 9301 Clam Lake Road. The Building Department has issued and posted a stop work order.

The State of Michigan issues Campground permits and license and regulate the standards. The park mobile trailers must be movable on wheels and shall not have a permanent foundation. He stated that he was unable to see any wheels under the mobile trailer. A meeting was held to discuss the issue with attorney, Terry Smith, Paul Trumble, Stephen Barnard and the DEQ and a copy of the Campground Rules and Regulations was requested.

Complaint

James Leposkey continues to call about the noise caused by his neighbors' chickens and roosters.

Informational

The clearing of property owned by Chad Munger (zoned agriculture) located on Bellaire Highway to grow and farm lavender and wild flowers to process the oils. Applications have been picked up for special land use for farm tourism.

Pat and Judy Corso sent a letter to thank Forest Home Township for their position being status quo on short term rentals.

Medical Leave

Announced that he will be on medical leave and Terry Smith, Township Supervisor will be filling in for him.

OLD BUSINESS

Medical Marihuana - Update

Trumble reported that the Forest Home Township Board will be taking action on the Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA) at their next meeting and will adopt resolution to opt out.

Cran reported on an article in the "Northern Express" on enforcement of driving under the influence of marihuana and measuring standards are unclear.

Trumble spoke of the problems that John and Fay Kirkpatrick are having as they review records of their property and have learned that documents on file do not support actual location of septic and drainfield. A "Point of Sale" Ordinance would have prevented this situation.

NEW BUSINESS

Steiner informed the members that he had been asked about information for campgrounds. He directed them that the first step is to contact the Zoning Administrator.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair requested Public Comment. Carolynn Nichols asked several questions about the Campground - Happy Town. Members spoke to the history of Happy Town being permitted by the township as site condominium and the State of Michigan issued the permits and license for Campground.

CORRECTED 10/4/2017

Hannah Berg provided additional information for the activity and clearing of property owned by Chad Munger located on Bellaire Highway which had been discussed by Zoning Administrator earlier in meeting. Chad Munger owner and operator of Mammoth Distillery originally purchased the property to build a distillery which was ~~denied~~ never reapplied for and now wants to be part of Bellaire and farming his property will make good use of the site. The property is zoned agriculture and with the help of her father Dave Berg the plan is to have a lavender farm, growing wild flowers and herbs. The plan is to grow, produce and sell flowers and oils. Forward thinking may become a future tourism attraction.

The next meeting will be October 4, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Chairman, Paul Trumble

Secretary, Linda Cran

