

**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETING  
MINUTES  
April 3, 2019 @7:00 PM**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Linda Cran and Tom Sheneman.  
Absent: Dan Steiner  
Also, present Steve Barnard,Carolynn Nichols

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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

**AGENDA:**

It was moved by Sheneman, seconded by Cran that the Agenda be approved as presented.  
Motion carried – Unanimous.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT - STEVE BARNARD:**

Michigan Township Association – Conference report:

**Handouts:**

- Broadband in Michigan
- Legal hemp or illegal pot? Quandary for police as authorities lack the technology to distinguish marijuana from agricultural hemp. Forthcoming: Rules and Regulations
- Zoning for Solar and Wind Energy
- Community Reaction to Land Use Changes

**FHT MASTER PLAN – WILLIAMS AND WORKS STATUS:**

Williams and Works is currently gathering information to update statistics for the Township and seeking direction from Township on how to proceed to gather public opinion and input. Hold Public Forums or provide field surveys to our residents.

Discussion followed.

**PERMITS ISSUED:**

- 1 Permit to remodel 8 foot mud room on Clam Lake
- 5 New Houses to date

**MINUTES:**

It was moved by Sheneman, seconded by Dewey to approve the March 13, 2019 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried – Unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Trumble reported that he, Barnard and Smith met on April 8, 2019 to discuss FHT Ordinance Section 3 Decks and Patios in the buffer zone. The meeting addressed the interpretation and definition of “ground level” when issuing and enforcing standards. All agreed that the Zoning Administrator define ground level beginning at 7.5 inches for raised boardwalks, walkways, and all decks along the buffer zone and that the Planning Commission review the definition of “ground level” and propose clear language for future amendment of the Zoning Ordinance Section 3 Decks and Patios. Discussion followed.

Cran reported that she continues to get verbal complaints for property owned by Steve Bacon. Discussion followed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Cran reported that the group Friends of Veterans are planning to place flags at the cemetery and Motorcycle Touring Groups have chosen Bellaire as their #1 destination in Michigan and will be touring in the near future.

Trumble reported that the Bellaire Boy Scouts place flags at cemetery yearly prior to Memorial Day.

Sheneman asked Barnard if anyone has approached the Township regarding Barn Events. Stating that these types of venue sites are becoming very popular.

Barnard reported that he has not had any inquiries and if a Special Use Permit and site plan application were filed, he would submit the application to the Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The Chairman requested Public Comment.Carolynn Nichols addressed the Commission seeking copies of Michigan Township Association (MTA) handout “Community Reaction to Land Use Changes”. Public Comment closed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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Chairman, Paul Trumble

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Secretary, Linda Cran