

**FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 2, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

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

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 no public comment.

AGENDA:

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

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE:

Paul Trumble reported for the absent Stephen Barnard.

The Zoning Administrator was again in court with Mr. Bacon and he is now in compliance. The complaint received for the site located at Driftwood Lane, owner Scott Holt was contacted and a site review was conducted with the findings that the dwelling and garage had not been completed and that the land use permit had expired. Mr. Holt was very willing to comply and has completed the renewal for his land use permit.

MINUTES:

It was moved by Sheneman, seconded by Dewey that the meeting minutes of February 3, 2016 be approved as corrected. Motion carried – Unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding the permit issued due to the lapse in timing for the Guest House permit language and standards adoption. The FHT Board delayed action due to the absence of the supervisor and the opinion of this commission is that no action should have been taken on the Zoning Ordinance Amendments and the document should have been returned to the commission. Returning the Ordinance to the Planning Commission would have prevented the issuing of a Guest House permit with no restrictions. No restrictions in this case could lead to two (2) Guest Houses or a Bed and Breakfast. Tom Frey stated that he had attended the last FHT Board meeting and the Board appeared to have a less restrictive opinion being less than 200 square feet verse the Planning Commissions minimum standards of 480 square feet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cran asked about Churches having exempt status if located in Central Lake and their parsonage located in Bellaire are they both exempt?

The official residence being the parsonage is provided by the church for its parsons and would have the exempt status as well if owned by the church. Cran also stated that she had seen on face book an advertisement for cooking lessons in a home located in Forest Home Township and the public could register for the classes for a minimal fee. Should this be a home based business that the Township would have to permit? When the Zoning Administrator returns from vacation we can check to see if he has issued any home based businesses recently. She stated that the Distillery opening in Central Lake. She also informed the commission that she had attended an Antrim County Board meeting and that there was discussion on the Recycling Program funding.

Medical Marijuana Update:

Trumble spoke on the negative impact that legalizing marijuana is having on the Tourism in Colorado, families are finding that you are unable to get away from the smoke and choosing to travel elsewhere. Meanwhile, there is a great deal of money to be made in legalized marijuana sales and that big companies are driving out the small businesses.

The chairman requested Public Comment. Tom Frey spoke on what determines if the Township has a Police Ordinance? This issued would have to be directed to the FHT Board and they may direct this issue to this commission or not. Mr. Frey stated that it appears that Mr. Bacon has just moved his personal property from one side of the street to the other and thank you again for continuing public comment at the end of meetings. Robert Milliron agreed that public comment at the end of meeting to allow input now rather than next meeting is business.

Other:

Additional Lighting – discussion:

Forest Home Township could use additional lighting at intersections that have increased traffic due to the additional dwelling and the increased use of our roads to access Glacial Hills Trails. Trumble stated that this would be an issue that the FHT Board would address as the Township would be responsible for the cost and maintenance.

The next regular meeting is April 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Paul Trumble, Chairman

Linda Cran, Secretary