

**PLANNING COMMISSION
FOREST HOME TOWNSHIP
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 2, 2023 @ 7:00 PM**

Members present: Paul Trumble, Doug Dewey, Linda Cran, Scott Steiner and Tom Sheneman.
Absent. None.
Also, present Janice Priebe and Stephen Barnard.

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

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

The Chairman announced that the continuation of the Public Hearing for the Special Land Use Permit Application made by W. Turner Booth & Autumn Berden for address 5812 S. East Torch Lake Drive, formerly known as Windward Shores. No communications with applicant or updates therefore, the continuation of the “Public Hearing” is cancelled.

The Chair requested that the Zoning Administrator update the commission on the Booth - Special Land Use Application.

The Zoning Administrator addressed the commission to inform them that he has not had any contact with Mr. W. Turner Booth or Autumn Berden since the last meeting.

AGENDA:

Moved by Steiner, and seconded by Dewey, that the commission approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried – all present voting yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chairman requested public comment. Janice Priebe addressed the commission. Public comment closed at 7:10 p.m.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR – STEPHEN BARNARD Update:

Windward Shores

No communications or updates from applicant Mr. W. Turner Booth

Reporting that he located old plans for Watomie Pines Condo’s from 1977, known today as Windward Shores.

Jeff Loveland Property – Wright Road

Cleanup in progress

House Permit Update:

Reporting that six (6) new home permits issued in the last 30 days.

MINUTES:

Moved by Steiner, and seconded by Sheneman, that the commission approve the meeting minutes of July 5, 2023 as presented. Motion carried – All present voting yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Short-term Rentals:

Steiner reported that the Board did discuss the topic of Short-term Rentals per the request of the commission and stated several concerns. Discussion followed. Boards input.

- Those that are honest would abide by a program with regulations.
- Others will continue to run their rental businesses as they are today under the radar.
- The Township is unable to control what they do not know about.
- A program would be an extensive program and is just not within the townships ability to (staff and finance).
- The problem is that there is not enough long-term rentals.

Discussion followed.

Trumble stated that a private residence is not commercial, but will ~~set sit~~ steady and continue to watch County and/or State movement. **CORRECTION 9/6/2023 COMMISSION**

Moved by Sheneman, and seconded by Cran, that the FHT Planning Commission approve to **TABLE** all discussion regarding Short-Term Rentals and Programs until September 2024 or until the State of Michigan in-acts ruling. Motion carried. All present voting yes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Steiner reported that he has heard several complaints of boaters not abiding to the No-Wake signage from Clam Lake/Torch River and Torch Lake and back.
- Dewey reported that Torch Lake Township adopted a Time of Transfer Sewer Ordinance.
- Trumble asked Dewey to bring a copy to the next meeting for the members to review.

Discussion. Short-Term Rentals add a great deal of stress on drain fields and septic tanks.

Zoning Ordinance Amendments:

Continue gathering information for list to work on this fall.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Chair requested public comment at 7:51 p.m. Janice Priebe addressed the commission. Public comment closed at 7:54 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54p.m.

Paul Trumble

Chair, Paul Trumble

Linda Cran

Secretary, Linda Cran