

Conway Township Planning Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
June 8th, 2009

**1. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag:**

- Chairperson Dennis Bowdoin called the Conway Township Planning Commission meeting to order at 7:30 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

**2. Minutes from the May 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 Meeting:**

- Minutes from the 5/11/2009 meeting were reviewed. George Pushies motioned to approve the minutes as presented, John Harless 2nd, all in favor.
- Minutes from the 5/19/2009 meeting were reviewed. George Pushies motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Cindy dickerson 2nd, all in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7/13/2009 at 7:30pm.

**3. Call to the Public**

- Herman Yost asked to be put on the agenda.

**4. Public Hearing- Zoning Ordinances Revisions**

- a. Public Hearing will be on 6/19/2009.

**5. Communications**

- a. Michigan has actually seen some growth in the Agricultural sector.
- b. Ottawa County has a good wind turbine/industry ordinance we should take a look at. The supervisor will send links so the Planning Commission members can review before the next meeting.
- c. There will be a wind turbine manufacturing facility in Eaton Rapids soon.
- d. There will be a MTA Zoning and Planning workshop in Frankenmuth on 7/8/09 from 5pm-9pm.
- e. MTA quarterly meeting- expect a drop in revenue of about 20% in the next 2-3 years.

**6. Land Divisions**

- a. Lindy and Patricia Gordon- Issue 1- Linn Gannon (sp) was in representing the Gordon's and Butch Bogetta (sp) was in representing his father Louie Bogetta (sp). Synopsis is that the Gordon driveway rests on the Bogetta property. Though this has existed for several years and 2 owners the Bogetta's now want to sell their property and want the driveway moved off of their land and onto the Gordon easement where it was intended to be built originally. To do this there is a pond to contend with near the road on the Gordon property which complicates the construction of the drive. Possible solution is to use excess fill from LCRC activities to help construct the drive through the pond. Another possible solution is to do a land transfer on the other side of the property and construct the driveway there. Both residents are now going to regroup, look at the potential solutions and may come back to the township for further direction and review.
- b. Lindy and Patricia Gordon- Issue 2- tabled for now.

**7. Old and New Business**

- a. Livingston County reviewed the proposed changes to Conway Township's zoning ordinances. The Township received a favorable review and was complimented on their

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forward thinking. They liked the fact residents were brought in for their input BEFORE the process of updating zoning started.

They did point out though that in the process of updating the zoning we had inadvertently deleted the household animal provisions- which they thought were the best in the county. They need to put those back into the zoning.

We also need to make sure the private road uses the Livingston Road Commission standards for drives so if they are updated our zoning will follow suit.

**8. Update from the Board**

a. The board needs to pre-approve any classes commissioners want to take. The commissioners will need to register for the class and pay for the class out of pocket they will then be reimbursed after proof of attending the class. We have reimbursement forms in the office.

b. Pole Barn Issue- There is a pole barn that is infringing on the property of 10651 Bell Oak Rd., the Knickerbocker property. As far as the township knows there was not a landuse permit or a building permit to construct the pole barn. It is also in violation of the 25' setback as it sits right on the property line. Future action could be to tear down the pole barn, relocate it or seek a variance.

**9. Call to the Public**

a. Herman Yost made the board aware of a number of mailboxes being smashed and or removed recently (typical of graduation season).

b. Mr. Yost recommended that perhaps the board or schools would bring this up in a public forum with the students as this is a felony offense and many may not realize that.

**10. General Discussion**

a. On 6/17/2009 @ 7pm Abby Cooper will be holding a seminar on foreclosures and mortgage defaults.

b. Again please make sure to read up on the Ottawa Co. wind turbine ordinances before the next meeting. Conway Township may not be most suitable for commercial applications but certainly residents and homeowners may want to generate their own.

**11. Adjournment**

- 6 residents were in attendance.
- George Pushies, Dennis Bowdoin, Cindy Dickerson, John Harless, Londa Horton and Scott Buell were all in attendance. Dennis Sommer was on vacation this month. Supervisor Mike Rife and Treasurer Kathy Demarais were also in attendance.
- A motion was made by George Pushies to adjourn at 9:17pm, John Harless 2nd, all in favor.
- Next meeting is 7/13/2009 @ 7:30pm.
  
- Submitted by John Harless