

# OTTAWA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

## PROPOSED MINUTES

DATE: October 1, 2003

PLACE: Ottawa County Fillmore Complex, Board Room

PRESENT: Betty Gajewski, Robert Rinck, Bill Miller, John DeGrazia, Cornelius Vander Kam, Jim Miedema

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Mark Knudsen, Soonja Hixon

GUESTS: JoAnne Marcetti, Grand Haven Township; Asher Pimpleton, Grand Haven Tribune; Jim Hauter, Grand Valley State University; Craig Hauter, Ferrysburg City; Jim Paggeot, Harbor Real Estate; Kim Grupa, Coopersville City

### **Call to Order:**

Chair Gajewski called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was present to conduct business. Invocation was given by Jim Miedema.

### **Approval of the Agenda:**

**03-35 Motion:** To approve the October 1, 2003 Agenda with the following changes:

- Under New Business, Remove Item A, Correspondence from Polkton Charter Township Requesting to Remove PA 116
- Under New Business, Add Item D, Michigan Society of Planning's Smart Growth Demonstration Project Nominations
- Under New Business, Add Item E, September Summary Report for Web log Activity - Planning & Grants Department
- Add as Other Business, Item A, Discussion of Property Issues - To go into Closed Session to discuss property issues. (2/3 roll call vote required).

Moved by: Vander Kam Supported by: Miedema **UNANIMOUS**

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

**03-36 Motion:** To approve the minutes of the September 3, 2003 meeting.

Moved by: Miller Supported by: Miedema **UNANIMOUS**

### **Announcements:**

#### **A. Introductions**

Chair Gajewski asked the members of the audience to introduce themselves.

## **B. Reports of Meetings Attended**

Robert Rinck reported that he attended an Open House at the Ottawa County Landfill on September 25, 2003. Mr. Rinck also attended a meeting that was held in Lansing with Representative Bill VanRegenmorter. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the "road salt" issue and the damage it causes to crops and trees.

Bill Miller attended meetings of the Wright Township and Chester Township Planning Commission.

Betty Gajewski attended a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. She reported that there will be an open house and dedication ceremony on October 9, 2003, for the new Hemlock Crossing Park. She also reported that the U. S. Army Corp of Engineers will be collecting information and data from past studies on the Grand River. Their objective is to use the data to develop additional methods of reducing the sediment load in the Grand River and other rivers throughout the State. Betty also attended a presentation sponsored by the Land Conservancy of West Michigan regarding green infrastructure.

Jim Miedema attended a meeting of the West Michigan Strategic Alliance.

John DeGrazia attended a M-104 Corridor meeting in Spring Lake and a Friends of the Ottawa County Trails and Paths Committee meeting.

Cornelius Vander Kam reported that he received a telephone call from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), inviting him to attend a meeting at the White House on September 16, 2003. He was informed that he would be meeting senior officials from the Environmental Protection Agency. During the meeting, President George Bush appeared to give a brief speech. Mr. Vander Kam said he had the opportunity to meet and speak with President Bush. Mr. Vander Kam reported that he also attended the Lansing meeting concerning road salt issues.

## **Petitions & Communications**

A. FYI Folder

B. Correspondence from Gwendoline Stillwell Regarding the Ottawa County Scratch and Sniff

Brochures

C. Correspondence to and from Georgetown Township Regarding Rezoning of Parcel No. 70-14-400-009 from Agriculture to Low Density Residential

D. Correspondence to Ottawa County Road Commission Supporting the Preliminary Plan for Narrower Street Standards and Right-of-Ways at Mason Stables in Jamestown Township

E. Correspondence to City of Holland Regarding Master Plan Amendments

F. Correspondence from Chester Township Regarding Amendments to the Chester Township Zoning Ordinance and/or Regulatory Ordinances

G. Correspondence to and from Wright Township Regarding a PA 116 Application from Dietrich

Orchards, LLC (Renewal)

**03-37 Motion:** To receive for information Items A - G

Moved by: Vander Kam Supported by: DeGrazia **UNANIMOUS**

**Public Comments:**

Joanne Marcetti, Grand Haven Township, reported that the Township is working on their annual budget. Based on the latest census information, it appears there will be a \$300,000 shortfall. Joanne said this amount should not affect the township and that they should be able to "weather the crunch." She also reported that on Tuesday, October 6, 2003, the township will host a Fire Rescue Open House. There will be many events and exhibits available to the public.

**Presentations:**

None

**New Business:**

A. Correspondence from Georgetown Township Regarding Rezoning a Planned Unit Development (PUD) in Georgetown Township.

**03-38 Motion:** To support Georgetown Township's Request to Rezone a Planned Unit Development

Moved by: Miedema Supported by: DeGrazia **UNANIMOUS**

B. Michigan Society of Planning's Smart Growth Demonstration Project Nominations

Mark Knudsen reported that an application was submitted to the Michigan Society of Planning to nominate the Blendon Township Smart Growth Demonstration Project, but the project was not selected.

C. West Michigan Strategic Alliance Regional Report 2002-2003

Mark Knudsen provided a brief summary of the West Michigan Strategic Alliance Regional Report to the Planning Commission members.

D. September Summary Report for Web log Activity - Planning & Grants Department

Mark Knudsen reported on web site visits per day to the Planning and Grants Department's new web page and the links receiving the most attention.

**Old Business:**

A. North/South Corridor Study (Update)

Mark Knudsen reported that the consultants are currently working on the "landscaping section" of the study.

B. M-104 Study (Update)

Mark Knudsen reported that a public hearing was recently held to gather input from the community. The consultants are working on a draft document and plan to hold a public hearing in November 2003 to unveil the draft recommendations and findings of this study.

#### C. Non-Motorized Pathways (Update)

Mark Knudsen said the Friends of the Ottawa County Trails and Paths recently held a meeting and continue to move forward on the project.

#### D. Ottawa County Development Plan (Update)

Mark Knudsen said that he hopes to have a draft plan ready within the next 30-60 days to present to the local units of government for their input.

#### E. Right-Of-Way Task Force (Update)

Mark Knudsen reported that a meeting with the Road Commission will be postponed until Sara Schrader returns from her leave of absence. There are two items that will be addressed at the meeting. These items are the Road Commission's requirement to designate an equal amount of open space as a "publicly owned park" on all new development proposals for narrower streets, and consideration of narrow street widths of 22-24 feet.

#### F. Citizen Planner

Mark said the Citizen Planner Program will begin on Thursday, October 2, 2003. He said that approximately sixty-five people have registered to attend these classes.

### **Other Business**

#### A. Closed Session to Discuss Property Issues (roll call vote required).

**03-39 Motion:** To go into Closed Session at 7:54 p.m. to discuss property issues.

Moved by: DeGrazia Supported by: Rinck **UNANIMOUS**

Results of roll call vote: Yeas: Robert Rinck, Bill Miller, John DeGrazia, Jim Miedema, Cornelius Vander Kam, Betty Gajewski  
Nays: None

**03-40 Motion:** To rise from Closed Session at 8:10 p.m.

Moved by: Miller Supported by: Vander Kam **UNANIMOUS**

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

