

**PORTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 517, UNION, MI 49130
OPEN MEETING MINUTES**

Chairman: Dave Nagy
Vice Chairman: Ron Grotovsky
Secretary: Patrick Williams
Members: Rick Russwurm
Bob Schultz
Chad Niblock
Township Trustee: Leard Wylie

September 20, 2017 6:00 PM EST

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nagy at 6:00 PM. Roll was called with all members present with the exception of Wylie and Grotovsky. A quorum was present. The minutes from the July 19, 2017 meeting were read and approved. Russwurm made a motion to accept the minutes, and Williams seconded. A vote was taken, and motion was passed unanimously. The agenda for today's meeting was approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Nagy opened the discussion concerning the conversion of the existing Birch Lake Dock Regulations Ordinance from a police power to a zoning ordinance. There were no comments from the public concerning this issue. After discussion, the Planning Commission directed Chairman Nagy to recommend conversion, as discussed, to the Porter Township Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Codification of township ordinances:

Chairman Nagy opened the discussion of codification of township ordinances. Mr. Mike Scheratt was present at the meeting representing the Baldwin Lake Association. Mr. Scheratt spoke in favor of codification of township ordinances as the existing system is very difficult for the public to work with. The Township Board, at their last meeting, has agreed to look into doing this. Mr. Scheratt has volunteered to work with this commission and/or the Board to assist with this project. The commission discussed various ideas to help implement this project as well. Dave Nagy will work with the Board to initiate getting this done.

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence:

The Commission received a letter from Mr. Bob Mueller of Union, Michigan supporting altering the existing accessory building ordinance.

Proposed changes to accessory building ordinance:

Williams reported the work of the subcommittee of Williams, Niblock, and Grotovsky. After consultation with the Zoning Board of Appeals, Porter Township Building Department, Porter Township Zoning Administrator, as well as coordinating with the Michigan Townships Association recommendations, new sizes of outbuildings were recommended. After discussion, Chairman Nagy will ask the Township Attorney to make these changes to the existing ordinance. At the next meeting, the Commission will make final alterations, if necessary, and submit to the Township Board if approved.

Zoning Administrator request:

The Zoning Administrator requested the Planning Commission examine Ordinance 111.501 (a) concerning determining residential front yard/back yard designation. The Commission pointed out there is an existing separate ordinance concerning lake residential front yard/back yard determination. Therefore, no changes to the wording of the existing ordinance is required.

There being no further business, Nagy moved to adjourn. Russwurm seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Williams, Secretary
Porter Township Planning Commission