

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF SPARTA PLANNING COMMISSION

Monday, February 2, 2015, 7 PM
Sparta Township Hall, Sparta, Michigan

2015 Village of Sparta Planning Commission Members

Chairman David Chambliss (2016), Vice Chair Becky Rogers (2017)
Commissioners William Hayes (2015), Hudson Miller (2015), Vacancy (2015),
Kristi Dougan (2016), Jayne Paasch (2016), Dwayne Pride (2017), Brenda Braybrook (2017), Secretary Toni Potes

Present: Village President Kristi Dougan; Village Council Member Jayne Paasch;
Commissioners Brenda Braybrook, David Chambliss, Hudson Miller,
Dwayne Pride and Becky Rogers; also present Village Manager Julius Suchy
Absent: Commissioner William Hayes, Secretary Toni Potes

1) / 2) Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Chambliss followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Roll Call: Members present and absent are noted above.

4) Minutes

a) Accept Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2015: Motion by Pride, second by Braybrook, to approve the Minutes. Motion carried 7-0.

5) Additions or Corrections to Agenda: None.

6) Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

7) Communications

a) None

8) Public Hearing

a) None

9) Unfinished Business

A. 2015 Master Plan Update

1. Discuss Survey and Community Input from 2010 Master Plan: Dougan indicated she would like to see the public engaged in the process again. She pointed out that Sparta is in a different place than it was 5 years ago. Members discussed the need for a recycling program and discussed bringing the goals from village council and tying them into a potential survey to make sure that village council is moving in the right direction based on the survey.

Pride asked if the Township should be involved in the process of updating the Master Plan and Suchy indicated that it is a good idea in areas that relate to adjoining boundaries such as entrance points to the community or the Rodeo Grounds.

Members discussed asking different sectors of the community (industrial, commercial, school) what their thoughts were as it relates to development moving forward.

Rogers indicated she would like to see guidelines for development by district. This would allow there to be variations between districts as opposed to the current format that requires all properties to follow the same guidelines regardless of use of zoning.

2. Determine if additional Community Input is necessary: The consensus was to move forward with community participation through a survey as well as through a workshop to try and invite the public out to provide their input or feedback on the master plan update.

3. Master Plan Update – Next Steps: For next month members are supposed to think about questions they would like to see in the next survey as well as review Ch. 2 “A vision for Sparta”.

10) New Business

A) Sign Ordinance Review Discussion: Suchy discussed the current sign ordinance and indicated that the entire section could use a review and update to help provide guidance and clarification on a number of areas including temporary signage, electronic signs and other sign types. Suchy will provide copies of the sign ordinance to members for the March meeting and at that point a timeline can be established to try and tackle the sign ordinance piece by piece.

11) Public Comment: None

12) Commission Comment: Kristi Dougan introduced Scott Christie as a potential candidate for a planning commission vacancy. He has worked with master plans and zoning regulations through his line of work and she thinks he would be a great addition to the board.

13) Adjournment: Motion by Pride, Second by Miller to adjourn at 8:00 PM. Motion carried 7-0. The next meeting of the Village of Sparta Planning Commission will be Monday, March 2, 2015, at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Julius Suchy, Acting Secretary