

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Manchester Township Hall, 275 S. Macomb, Manchester, Michigan 48158
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2023 7:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Walter at 7:30 PM. Members Present: Mike Walter, George Daubner, Dave Thompson, Doug Brooks, Mike Fusilier, Ashley Buniack. Members Absent: Sybil Kolon. Others Present: Recording Secretary Brenda Bancroft; Manchester Township Supervisor Ron Milkey, Carl Werner, William Gervick, Laura Gervick, Melinda Fitzpatrick.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Brooks, second by Daubner, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all. Absent: Kolon. **Motion carried.**

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the April 6, 2023 Manchester Township Planning Commission Meeting were presented.

A motion was made by Fusilier, second by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2023 Manchester Township Planning Commission meeting as presented. Ayes: all. Absent: Kolon. **Motion carried.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Manchester Township Supervisor Ron Milkey commented that the new RV park is expecting campers in the next 3 weeks. He's excited for their progress.

William Gervick commented that the agenda had not been posted before the meeting on the website again. Inquired to the Planning Commission as to why this keeps occurring and wants to make sure that this is corrected for future meetings.

E. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

I. Report of Chairperson – Chairman Walter reported that he'd had a conversation with Sybil Kolon, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting, regarding land conservation. She is meeting with people about setting up a training session/public meeting regarding land conservation. Those she met with recommended that between now and fall is not good timing, as farmland is likely being farmed or people are on vacation. Recommended that this meeting would occur at the end of summer or in the fall. Kolon

also wanted to continue to ask for the Township's support to continue publicizing Land Conservation efforts.

II. Report of Township Board Representative – Fusilier presented a brief report from the April 2023 Manchester Township Board meeting.

III. Report of Zoning Board of Appeals – Chairman Walter reported there are no requests for review at the moment.

IV. Report of Planning Consultant – No report, as Township Planning Consultant Alissa Starling is absent. She had a scheduling conflict and is presenting a Master Plan at a different community during this meeting time.

V. Reports of Committees

i. SWWCOG – Next meeting will be in June 2023.

ii. GIHRIC (Greater Irish Hills Regional Intermunicipality Committee) – No report.

iii. Joint Planning Commission – Chairman Walter reported that they are rescheduling this meeting for a later date that is TBD.

VI. Correspondence – No correspondence.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. Brainstorm: What Manchester Is To Us

Chairman Walter is asking for the Planning Commission to brainstorm and look at what is important to us as a community and trying to understand what needs to be focused on within the Joint Master Plan. Wants to keep this at the forefront to help the community maintain the character and image that we're looking for.

Fusilier mentioned that this was brought up at the last Township Board meeting and that there was a lot of public feedback in regards to this brainstorm idea. Was happy that they had so much feedback and interaction from the public as the meeting.

Brooks would like to promote and encourage the agricultural aspect of Manchester.

Chairman Walter asked the public for their input, and Melinda Fitzpatrick commented that she wants Manchester to keep the quiet rural character, especially in regards to being neighborly.

Brenda Bancroft also mentioned that encouraging homesteading and small hobby farms within the community can help keep Manchester agricultural, but can include those on smaller parcels.

G. New Business

I. Updating ordinance language to include data processing applications

Chairman Walter reported that he has not received any suggested language yet from the planners. As the Board has placed a moratorium on this, they will put this in a parking lot item for future discussion.

II: Election of Planning Commission Officers

Nominations for Chairman:

A motion was made by Daubner, Second by Brooks, to appoint Mike Walter as Chairman.

Ayes: Brooks, Daubner, Walter, Thompson, Fusilier, Buniack. Nays: None. Absent: Kolon. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Daubner, Second by Brooks, to appoint Dave Thompson as Vice-Chairman.

Ayes: Brooks, Daubner, Walter, Thompson, Fusilier, Buniack. Nays: None. Absent: Kolon. **Motion Carried.**

A motion was made by Daubner, Second by Thompson, to appoint Ashley Buniack as Secretary.

Ayes: Brooks, Daubner, Walter, Thompson, Fusilier, Buniack. Nays: None. Absent: Kolon. **Motion Carried.**

H. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS –

Fusilier commented that the Township Board meeting is on Monday, May 8th 2023 instead of Tuesday, due to a scheduling conflict.

Thompson commented that the RV Park is looking at building Pickle Ball Courts and wanted to make the Commissioners aware of that.

Brooks inquired if there would be any discussion regarding the Camping and Cargo Container ordinances this evening.

Walter commented that the attorneys are currently looking at the Camping and Cargo Container ordinances and are waiting for their response.

J. PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Gervick inquired on if previous cargo containers would be grandfathered in after the new ordinance goes into effect.

K. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Thompson, second by Brooks, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: all. Absent: Kolon. **Motion carried.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

Approved
Michael Walt
Chairperson