

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Manchester Township Hall, 275 S. Macomb, Manchester, Michigan 48158
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 5th, 2023 7:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

5th,

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Walter at 7:30 PM. Members Present: Mike Walter, George Daubner, Mike Fusilier, Sybil Kolon, Ashley Buniack, Doug Brooks; Dave Thompson arrived at 7:34 PM. Others Present: Recording Secretary Brenda Bancroft; Colleen Schoenfeld.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the September 7th, 2023 Manchester Township Planning Commission Meeting were presented.

A motion was made by Kolon, second by Buniack, to approve the minutes of the September 7th, 2023 Manchester Township Planning Commission meeting as presented.

Ayes: all. Absent: Thompson. **Motion carried.**

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

E. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

I. Report of Chairperson – Chairman Walter informed the Planning Commission that Carlisle Wortman will no longer supporting Manchester Township on a day-to-day basis, and will now only be used for major projects (such as the Joint Master Plan). Currently in talks with Alissa Starling to potentially hire her as a day-to-day Planning Consultant and also looking at other planning consultant options.

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

III. Report of Zoning Board of Appeals – No meeting in the last month: however, currently a request has been submitted for review. Request is to build a garage that has a

living space within it - Chairman Walter is investigating if this request is allowable. Will be scheduling a ZBA meeting later in October 2023.

IV. Report of Planning Consultant – No Report.

V. Reports of Committees

i. SWWCOG – Met on September 13, 2023 in Bridgewater Township. Kolon attended the meeting and informed the Planning Commission that Washtenaw Country Road Commission has a new director that would like to find more funds to renovate local roads. Discussion regarding updated voting rules with early voting and Washtenaw County is providing assistance. Next meeting is December 6, 2023 in Manchester Township.

ii. GIHRIC (Greater Irish Hills Regional Intermunicipality Committee) – Met in August 2023. Kolon attended and informed the Planning Commission Brooklyn is working on a recreation plan and expanding walking paths and they are working on a Joint Recreation Plan.

iii. Joint Planning Commission – Chairman Walter reported that John Enos at Carlisle Wortman would like to make a presentation with the current progress of this project. He’s hoping to schedule this presentation in October, but it could occur in early November if there needs to be additional time. Cambridge Township, which is a neighboring township, has provided a copy of their draft renewing their Joint Master Plan and are looking for feedback. The Planning Commission has been asked to read and review this document and Cambridge Township is asking for those comments by Monday, November 27, 2023.

iv. Land Preservation – Kolon reported that they met before this meeting and adopted a mission statement. Members had followed up with neighboring townships regarding discussing their Land Preservation projects and information, including Freedom Township, Franklin Township, and Norvell Township. Fusilier reported that they will also look into what parcels/features in the township should be approached for potential Land Preservation projects.

VI. Correspondence – copy of the Manchester Village newsletter; copy of Township Magazine.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

I. Agricultural Tourism

Chairman Walter is looking into the changes requested by the Township Board and what the concerns were to correct that ordinance language.

G. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

H. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Thompson commented regarding the meeting regarding Manchester's identity last week and felt like it went astray. It brought a lot of excitement and it was good thing; however, he felt it needed more structure.

Walter commented that there needs to be more advertising for meetings to help encourage public attendance.

Kolon commented that gravel roads help preserve and define Manchester Township's rural character.

Daubner commented that he's interested in the public participation with the next meeting regarding Manchester Township's identity.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

J. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Buniack, second by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: all.
Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Approved as amended.
Brenda Bancroft 11/2/23

