

FREEDOM TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Sept. 5, 2017

These minutes are not approved until our next meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Lindemann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Karen Flahie, Matt Little, Larry Lindemann, Susan Ochs and Dan Schaible,  
Also in attendance: Planner Rodney Nanny, Supervisor Dale Weidmayer.

A motion was made by Lindemann and supported by Little to move the new business ahead of the old and approve the agenda. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Flahie, with support by Ochs, to dispense with the reading of and approve the corrected minutes of the Aug 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The correction under Communications of the Aura Inn should read P.L.I.. The motion passed.

Communications:

- Township Focus
- P.L.P.O.A. meeting to be held Sept 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the Townhall. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided. New bylaws will be presented and Representative Donna Lasinski will be there to discuss water issues.
- Flahie reported she attended a MTA training meeting. Three big issues were: pending legislation taking away local control of some short term rental properties; medical marijuana; and solar farms. She also attended a Consumers Energy tour of the Freedom station.
- Little reported the formation of a public safety committee to look into what fits for Freedom Township in regards to pipelines, oil and natural gas pumping stations and natural disasters. We will be looking to coordinate with Washtenaw County emergency planners.

Audience Participation:

- Beth Heuser asked if the township was notified of a pressure release. Weidmayer answered that he had been notified and that there was an email sent out through the P.L.O.P.A.

New Business:

- Happy Hearts Feline Rescue (HHFR) applied for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a feline rescue at 10905 East Pleasant Lake Rd. A brief overview was given by Jeanette Spencer. She was asked to clarify the proposed hours of operation, when they received their state approval to be a shelter, and their 501C3 non-profit status.

The planning commission received many emails in support of their shelter. Many of the emails were from residents outside of the township. Little asked what their neighbor's thoughts were. Beth Heuser spoke as a neighbor on how well the animals are cared for. Ron Niche said his daughter volunteers there and spoke very highly of it. Melanie Nau said she and her daughter also volunteer there. Planning Commission asked about the number of cats currently at the shelter and if there is a maximum number under the state permit. The answer was 40.

A motion was made by Lindemann to hold a public hearing on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm at the Townhall in regards to a conditional use permit for HHFR to operate in a residential district. Support by Flahie, motion passed

- Review of Sec. 5.201- Accessory Dwelling B  
Discussion on allowing living areas in accessory buildings: If allowed there would be a need area for two more septic fields on a lot. If allowed the possibility exists of unpermitted expansion of bedrooms inside of structures (apartments). Planner Rodney Nanney offered that under a conditional use there would be more oversight. There was no decision.
- Temporary camping on vacant parcels public hearing discussion:  
Some of the public concern and comments that we need to look at were: how the permits would work; would it be on vacant lots only; rediscuss side lot setbacks; tents included and clarified; waste disposal clarified; enforcement; seasonal days-is 45 enough; cleanliness standards (yards and gear); storage sheds on unoccupied lots; and number of boats on a lot.
- Consumers Energy  
No new information, planners should review Rodney's Aug 4<sup>th</sup> memo.

Audience participation: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

Respectfully Dan Schaible, Secretary