

## Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission

**Agenda for:** Monday, August 1, 2022 at 6:00pm

### Commissioners:

Name	Present	Absent
Barry Visel (Chairman)	x	
David Aubry (Vice Chairman)	x	
Rich Bailey		x
Eric Jasiak	x	
Tamra Stafford	x	
Jim Jastifer	x	
Nathan Miersma	x	

### Also present:

Name	Description
Don Ulsh	Township Supervisor
Chris Hamilton	GCCI

### Call to order

Commissioner Visel opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Approval of agenda

Commissioner Visel added an update from Consumers Energy regarding solar initiatives to the new business section of the agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Aubry, supported by Commissioner Stafford to approve the agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Approval of previous meeting minutes**

Commissioner Visel mentioned errors in the previous minutes. "Noting" needs to be changed to "nothing."

Motion by Commissioner Visel supported by Commissioner Miersma to approve the minutes of the regular meeting that occurred July 11, 2022 with the above changes. Motion carried 6 - 0.

### **Public comments / citizen time:**

1. Dave Skinner provided feedback related to proposed text changes for accessory buildings.

### **New business**

- a. Site Plan Review – Connections Community Church

Commissioner Aubry moved to approve the site plan, supported by Commissioner Jastifer with no changes.

Motion carried 6-0.

- b. Zoning text discussion regarding accessory buildings and horse boarding

Commissioner Visel opened the public hearing related zoning text changes at 6:05.

Planning Commission finalized the proposal to the Township Board regarding accessory buildings, to reflect the following:

R1, R2 and R3 districts:

Parcels up to 1 acre – 1200 sq ft accessory buildings allowed

Parcels up to 2 acres – 1800 sq ft accessory buildings allowed

Parcels up to 3 acres – 2400 sq ft accessory buildings allowed

RR district parcels over 3 acres but less than 5 acres - 3000 sq feet accessory buildings allowed

Proposed changes related to horse boarding were reviewed with no new changes.

Motion by Commissioner Miersma to recommend changes to the township board, supported by Commissioner Jastifer; motion carried 6-0.

The public hearing was closed at 6:44pm by Commissioner Visel

c. Consumers Energy update:

Consumers Energy representative provided an overview of the activities taking place related to land identification for solar projects and an initiative to transition to renewable energy. Consumers is seeking approximately 8000 megawatts of solar production statewide and is seeking land parcels 50 acres or larger for solar gardens and 100 acre or larger parcels for generation-scale projects.

**Old business**

No items were discussed

**Report from the Township Board**

An update was provided by Commissioner Stafford including:

- ARPA funds, American rescue plan funds from government – township has almost 500k to spend; a survey will be posted for citizens to submit input
- Communication will be inserted into Dec tax bills to explain the benefits and limitations of charter township structure, with an educational intent only
- Cemetery regulations were reviewed
- Fire authority is getting quotes on important equipment/vehicles

**Report from the Zoning Board of Appeals**

No items were discussed

**Motion to adjourn** at 7:03 by Commissioner Jastifer seconded by Commissioner Jasiak. Motion carried 6- 0.