

Schoolcraft Township Planning Commission

Minutes for: Monday, September 11, 2023

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 |
|----------------|------------------------|
| | |
| Eric DeYoung | |
| Chris Dykestra | |
| Don Ulsh | Township Supervisor |
| Chris Hamilton | Township Zoning Admin. |

Call to order

Vice Chairman Aubry opened the meeting at 6:04 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of agenda

Commissioner Stafford moved to approve agenda, supported by Commissioner Jasiek. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Commissioner Stafford motioned to approve the minutes of August 7, 2023 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Jasiek. Motion carried 4-0.

Public comments / citizen time:

New business

1. Special Use Permit and Rezoning public hearing: Mitch Pater, 13432 Portage Rd.

Vice Chair Aubry asked for a motion to open the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Commissioner Jasiek motioned to open the public hearing and Commissioner Bailey supported. Motion carried 4-0.

Eric DeYoung of Nederveld walked through the proposed special use permit request. Vice Chair Aubry called for a motion to close the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. Commissioner Bailey motioned to close the public hearing, Commissioner Jasiek supported and the motion passed 4-0.

No public comments were heard.

Commissioner Bailey motioned to recommend approval of the Special Use Permit. Commissioner Jasiek supported the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Vice Chair Aubry asked for a motion to open the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. on the Rezoning Request for 13432 Portage Road. Commissioner Bailey motioned to open the public hearing and Commissioner Jasiek supported and the motion passed 4-0.

A citizen asked if the interior climate-controlled area was accessible from the interior only. No one could answer the question. This will be researched and communicated back to the Township.

Questions were raised about soil contamination and Eric DeYoung explained that this was all part of the due care process.

Vice Chair Aubry asked for a motion to close the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. Commissioner Bailey motioned to approve the rezoning as applicant requested. Commissioner Jasiek supported the motion and it passed 4-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bailey to recommend approval of the rezoning as requested. Commissioner Jasiek supported the motion and it carried 4-0.

2. Future Land Use / Master Plan

This item was tabled as no one was present from the W.E. UI

Old business:

Report from the Township Board

Commissioner Stafford provided a summary report of township board activities:

- Approved the 2022-2023 draft audit
- Approved the SKCFA amendments to Articles of Incorporation

- Adopted Hazardous Mitigation Plan Resolution
- Discussed ARPA and Charter Township Survey Results
- Discussed Schoolcraft Historical Society request – this was tabled to the September meeting
- Discussed Future of materials management request – this was tabled to the Sept. meeting
- Approved AT&T Metro Act Extension
- Discussed Sunset Lake Aquatic Vegetation Program (2025-2029)

Report from the Zoning Board of Appeals:

No meeting

Member Comments – Don thought that the Planning Commission was targeting the Township officials based on an e-mail from a Planning Commissioner. Commissioner Bailey agreed with the Commissioner who wrote the e-mail. There was much discussion on the process of getting a survey mailing out. It was decided that Don would speak to Teresa (Treasurer) after the tax period has ended (Sept. 14) about what is needed to get this mailing out. Commissioner Stafford offered to help also. Don will send a follow-up e-mail to the Planning Commission as to the outcome of his conversation with Teresa Scott.

A citizen brought up the possibility of sending out a post-card with the QR Code and explanation on how to vote. This is something we will be looking into.

A motion to adjourn was raised at 6:56 by Commissioner Bailey and seconded by Commissioner Stafford. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Stafford