

MANISTEE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

70 Maple Street
Manistee, MI 49660

MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2008

A Meeting of the Manistee City Planning Commission was held on Thursday, September 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Yoder

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Linda Albee, Maureen Barry, Ben Bifoss, Dave Crockett, Ray Fortier, Eric Gustad, Harlo Haines, Tony Slawinski, Roger Yoder

Members Absent: Taylor Roberts (Youth Observer)

Others: Jeff Mikula (Abonmarche), Lorraine Conway (Manistee Lions), John Hansen (300 Walnut Street) Jon Rose (Community Development), Denise Blakeslee (Planning & Zoning) and Others

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Ray Fortier, seconded by Tony Slawinski that the Agenda be approved as prepared.

With a roll call vote this motion passed 9 to 0.

Yes: Barry, Bifoss, Albee, Crockett, Gustad, Fortier, Haines, Slawinski, Yoder
No: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Planning Commission Meeting of August 7, 2008

MOTION by Tony Slawinski, seconded by Ray Fortier that the minutes of the August 7, 2008 Planning Commission Meeting be approved.

With a roll call vote this motion passed 9 to 0.

Yes: Albee, Barry, Bifoss, Crockett, Gustad, Fortier, Haines, Slawinski, Yoder
No: None

PUBLIC HEARING:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation - Wind Energy

Nathaniel Neider who serves on the Zoning Board of Appeals made a presentation to the Commission on Wind Energy. Mr. Neider is working on achieving his Master Citizen Planner Certification.

Handouts were given to the Commissioners - *Michigan Siting Guideline for Wind Energy Systems; Draft Model Small Wind Ordinance for Maryland; Michigan Green Funding Handbook.*

Presentation - Beach Master Plan

Commissioner Bifoss took a seat in the audience.

Jeff Mikula, Abonmarche gave a presentation on the proposed Beach Master Plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Lorraine Conway, Manistee Lions Club - Ms. Conway asked Mr. Mikula questions regarding the Beach Master Plan.

Chairman Yoder explained to Ms. Conway that the Planning Commission has not been involved in the process and that if she wished to speak to Mr. Mikula about the plan she could do so after the meeting.

John Hansen, 300 Walnut Street - Mr. Hansen asked if we want "World Class Beaches" why do we have the worst street in the world leading to it?

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

STAFF REPORT:

Ms. Blakeslee reminded the Commission that the Worksession on September 18th will begin at 6:00 p.m. because we will be taking a bus tour.

MEMBERS DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Gustad is trying to schedule a person from the EPA to come to a Planning Commission Meeting to give a presentation on Green Communities.

Commissioner Crockett asked why the Planning Commission was not involved in the Beach Master Plan process? Are the Planning Commission not the Planners for the Community?

Commissioner Albee said she was concerned that the Commission was not included in the process.

Chairman Yoder said that he would have liked to see the Planning Commission involved in the process and would like the Planning Commission to have a say in the plan.

Jon Rose said that a grant was obtained and consultants the Beach Master Plans. A similar example would be the Parks and Recreation Plan done every five years by the Parks Commission. The Planning Commission is not involved in the development of that plan. The Planning Commission does adopt the Parks and Recreation Plan after it is adopted by the Parks Commission.

MOTION by Dave Crockett, seconded by Linda Albee that Chairman Yoder send a letter to City Council expressing the Commissions desire to have an opportunity to review the plan and have input on the final product.

Commissioner Bifoss asked the Chair if he felt there was any conflict of interest for him to vote on this issue.

Chairman Yoder said he did not see any conflict.

With a roll call vote this motion passed 9 to 0.

Yes: Albee, Crockett, Gustad, Fortier, Haines, Barry, Slawinski, Bifoss, Yoder
No: None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Tony Slawinski, seconded by Linda Albee that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 P.M.

MANISTEE PLANNING COMMISSION

Denise J. Blakeslee, Recording Secretary