

The Oceana County Planning Commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Greiner on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 1:03 p.m., in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room, 100 S. State Street, Hart, Michigan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Greiner led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Vince Greiner, Secretary John Stivers, Mr. Al Blohm, Mr. Paul Cutter, Ms. Gina Loera, Mr. Garry McKeen, and Mr. Phil Morse arrived at 1:10 P.M.

Absent: Vice Chairperson Scott Rumsey and John Foss.

Also present: Ms. Stacey Becker, Financial/HR Coordinator, Ms. Brittany Bostrom, Accounts Payable Clerk, Stephen Carlson, from WMSRDC who is the project manager for the joint Oceana Planning Commission and Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Moved by Mr. McKeen and seconded by Mr. Cutter to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023 with the correction of the date in the header, with Oceana County Planning Commission meeting. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes from November 3, 2022 Oceana County Planning Commission meeting, which had not been approved at a prior meeting. Moved by Mr. Stivers and seconded by Mr. Cutter to approve minutes as presented. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA ITEMS OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Moved by Mr. McKeen and seconded by Mr. Blohm to approve the agenda of the March 2, 2023 Oceana County Planning Commission meeting, as presented. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments.

REORGANIZATION

- Election of Officers
 - Chairperson Greiner handed the election of chairman, in the absence of the Vice Chairperson, to Secretary Stivers. Mr. Stivers opened the floor for nominations. Mr. McKeen, supported by Mr. Stivers, nominated Mr. Greiner to remain as Chairperson. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Stivers closed the floor. Voice vote. All ayes. Nomination Carries.

- Chairperson Greiner resumed presiding, opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson. Mr. McKeen, supported by Mr. Blohm, nominated Ms. Loera. Ms. Loera supported by Mr. Cutter, nominated Mr. Rumsey. No other nominations were made. Show of hands. Five votes were cast for Ms. Loera and two cast for Mr. Rumsey. Ms. Loera was elected Vice Chairman. Motion Carried.
- Chairperson Greiner opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Mr. Cutter, supported by Mr. Blohm, nominated Mr. Stivers to remain Secretary. Hearing no other nominations, Mr. Greiner closed the floor. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried.
- Available Training. New commissioners do not need additional training following their initial four hours, to satisfy requirements set out in the By Laws. Mr. McKeen indicated he had recently attended a grant proposal workshop. Any commissioner identifying possible training opportunities are encouraged to share the information at a scheduled meeting. If timing prevents that, contact Ms. Becker who will obtain the Chair's approval.

OLD BUSINESS

- Discussion was had about the scheduled meeting time. Ms. Loera asked if we should again consider an alternative meeting time. The current time was found to be most satisfactory.
- Master Plan Update:
 - Mr. Carlson handed out and reviewed a summary of input from the December 1, 2022 Planning Commission workshop session of approximately 21 participants, from a meeting with the Oceana county Community Foundation (OCCF) Youth Advisory Council (YAC) of 25 high school students held at the Walkerville Library, and from approximately 90 online surveys completed between late November 2022 and mid-February 2023.
 - Mr. Carlson reviewed with the commissioners the major themes of the input. He feels there is more than adequate input to proceed to organize it into the five areas similar to the 2016 master plan: Quality of Life, Environment, Infrastructure, Community Development, and Economic Development. He will prepare a draft to be emailed to the commissioners prior to the April meeting, and will return to the April meeting with the objective of validating what is included while seeing if anything is missing. A link to the 2016 Master Plan is to be sent to the commissioners for the review process.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. McKeen expressed concern that township zoning boards are not submitting new ordinances for review by the County Planning Commission. Among the responsibilities of the County Planning Commission is the review of ordinances and zoning changes that may affect adjacent municipalities. However, there is no penalty for lack of compliance. The township officers are meeting every other month as part of the County's Michigan Township Association chapter. Several commissioners showed interest in attending their next meeting, open to the public, being held at Benona Township Hall on March 29, 2023 at 6:00pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

- Mr. Cutter reported that the City of Hart had acquired the Creek Subdivision Association, with plans to increase the number of housing units.
- Ms. Loera disclosed that she has taken a position with Dogwood Community Development.
- Mr. Morse gave a follow up report concerning internet access in the county, stating that two grants have been submitted in cooperation with Charter and Great Lakes Energy (Truestream). The service map for the county may still be reviewed for conformance with available service levels.
- Mr. McKeen invited commissioners interested in an update on the Stony Creek Restoration and Marshville Dam Removal, to join the Oceana County Parks & Recreation meeting later in the afternoon. July 22, 2023 has been set for the ground-breaking ceremony.
- Mr. McKeen reported that the Oceana Conservation District Agricultural Banquet is scheduled for March 20, 2023.
- Chairperson Greiner introduced Brittany Bostrom, from the County staff who will be in attendance at and assisting the Planning Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairperson Greiner adjourned the meeting at 2:22pm.

The next meeting will be April 6, 2023 at 1:00pm in the Oceana County Board of Commissioners Room, 100 S. State Street, Hart, MI 49420.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittany M. Bostrom
On behalf of John Stivers, Secretary
Oceana County Planning Commission