

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Draft Minutes
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Commissioner Soper called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Jon Soper, Chairman
Richard Schaefer, Vice Chair
Jay Piquette, Member
Joan Nelson, Zoning and Equalization Administrator
Joe Langdon, County Commissioner, Representative
John Parsons, Member

Tom O'Callaghan, Member

Absent: Janet Shea, Member
Jack Tregabiwan, Member
Jeff Turnquist, County Commissioner,
Representative

June Meeting

It was noted that the June 2008 meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

AGENDA

Motion to accept the agenda by Richard Schaefer. Motion seconded by Tom O'Callaghan.

Motion carried.

Guests: None

Unfinished Business

Land Use Plan Updates: Jon Soper and Joan Nelson attended the June 11 presentation of the Land Use Update in Houghton. Kurt Shindler provided information for the various Planning Commissions to review. It was noted that the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act has been rewritten, replacing previous Zoning Enabling Acts. Information can be obtained at 'WWW.PZCENTER.MSU.EDU'. The Keweenaw County Planning Commission reviewed some of the changes in the Act. Planning Commission members are requested to review the Enabling Act for the next meeting to determine what additional work needs to be done by the Planning

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Commission.

New Business

Member Resignation.

Chairman Soper reported that former Vice Chair Janet Shea submitted to the County Board of Commissioners her resignation from the Planning Commission.

Motion by Chairman Soper to thank Janet for her many years of Service to the Planning Commission and to the County. Her talents, dedication and insight will be missed. Motion seconded by John Parsons. **Motion unanimously carried.**

Board Representation on the Planning Commission

The County Board had decided to reduce its representation on the Planning Commission due to increased work load at the Board level. As a result, Jeff Turnquist will no longer attend Planning Commission meetings.

Expanded Planning Commission Representation

The new Enabling act allows for expanded Planning Commissions, including people from other Zoning Districts.

Motion by Vice-Chair Schaefer to approach the GMO, the largest land owner in the county, to determine if they would like to have a representative on the Planning Commission. Motion seconded by Jon Soper. Motion carried. Jon Soper will talk to the GMO representative to determine if they have any interest in participating on the Commission.

Member Tom O'Callaghan suggested that since the new enabling act allows for participants from outside the Zoning District, Eagle Harbor should be approached to see if they wished to participate on the County Planning Commission. Commissioner Langdon said that he would talk to the County attorney to verify that the new Enabling act would permit Eagle Harbor representation.

Planning Commission By-Laws

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Chairman Soper requested that the Planning Commission members review the Planning Commission by-laws (dated 1962) for discussion at the next Commission meeting.

Enabling Act Review

Planning Commission members are requested to review the Enabling Act for the next meeting to determine what additional work needs to be done by the Planning Commission.

Correspondence

None

Zoning Administrator's Report

- I. The Administrator reported that 24 permits have been issued to date. This compares to 34 in the last similar period.
- II. The Zoning Administrator discussed an application for a building permit that had unusual features that did not completely comply with the ordinance. After discussion, the Commission members ratified the Administrator's decision to approve the permit.
- III. The Historical Society intends to buy the Gay School and turn it into a museum. This will require a public meeting because the property is zoned RR. It was decided to hold the public hearing in Gay at the beginning of the next Planning Commission Meeting.

Public Comments

None..

Commission Final Comments

None

Adjourn

Motion by Richard Schaefer to adjourn. Motion seconded by John Parsons. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Planning Commission is scheduled for 6:00

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pm on August 26, 2008 at the Gay Township Hall.