

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
Minutes May 30, 2017

Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

Roll Call: Jon Soper, Chair John Parsons Vice Chair,
 Richard Schaefer, Excused Tom Hall, Member
 Steve Siira, Member Ned Huwatschek, Member
 Jim Vivian, Commissioner
 Ann Gasperich Zoning Administrator

5 Member quorum is present and the meeting was appropriately posted.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Guests present: Dan Steck, Mary Long, Kathy McEvers

Public Hearing Regarding
Section 10.12.11 Echo Housing

The Chair opened the public hearing at 6:04. He provided opening remarks regarding the ECHO zoning ordinance amendments. He explained the reason for the change and the changes specifically.

The floor was open to testimony from the public. There was none presented.

Comments from the Planning Commission were taken, there were none.

The Chair closed the formal hearing at 6:11 PM.

M/S Tom/Ned to approve the agenda, passed.

M/S John/Steve to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 25, 2017, passed.

Public Comment - None

Communications - None

Unfinished Business

The Commission discussed the Houghton County Land Use Plan. John said it was a good plan and there was nothing that stuck out or came as a surprise.

Report from the Ad Hoc Committee regarding membership: John, Joh, Ned and Richard met with six persons interested in serving on the Planning Commission. They were glad to see such interest.

New Business

M/S John/Ned to recommend the ECHO Amendments to the Board of Commissioners for approval and adopt an effective date of the ordinance changes as of July 1, 2017, motion passed with Jim Vivian abstaining.

Wilderness Resort owners, Rick and Darren Olson were present to share their plan of the campground. Rick was disappointed to understand the current zoning ordinance requires 10 A for a campground serving more than four camp sites. He asked for advice from the Commission on how he should proceed. It was suggested his first avenue be to file a zoning permit for four sites and be approved. The next step is to file a permit for the additional sixteen sites, have the permit denied then apply for a variance request by the ZBA. (it was later determined a variance for USE is not eligible for a ZBA review. The current parcel is zoned RS-1. Campgrounds are not a right or a right with conditions, or a special use in RS-1) This matter will be presented to the Planning Commission for consideration of a review of the provisions within the ordinance.

The changes to the Eagle Harbor Township Zoning Ordinance are proceeding. The public hearing will be July 13, with the Township Board hearing the recommendation at their August meeting.

M/S Jon/Ned to recommend to the County Board for appointments to:
Planning Commission Dan Steck and Barry Koljonen
Zoning Board of Appeals Commissioner Sandra Gayk,
passed with one abstain, Jim Vivian

The Zoning Administrator's Report

Report from the ZBA -

Final Public Comments -

Commission Final Comments

Next regular meeting June 27, 2017 6:00 PM

M/S Tom/Steve Adjourn