

# Keweenaw County Planning Commission

## Minutes

### Keweenaw County Court House

March 24, 2009

Chairman Jon Soper called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

#### ROLL CALL:

Present: Jon Soper, Rich Schaefer, John Parsons, Deneen Connell, Jim Huovinen  
Joan Nelson-Equalization and Zoning Administrator

Absent: Jay Piquette, Tom O'Callaghan, Don Keith

AGENDA: Approved without objection.

MINUTES: October 28, 2008 meeting minutes approved without objection.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Planning Commission reorganization and election of officers held in abeyance.
- The Master Plan, pages 89 to 109, to be reviewed at the April 28, 2009 meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Chairman Soper presented information on the *Michigan Planning & Enabling Act of 2008* (Effective Date: September 1, 2008). Responsibilities of the Planning Commission working in association with the County Commissioners were discussed as follows:
  - County Commissioners: Meet with the Planning Commission periodically.
  - County Commissioners: Request Planning Commission to prepare an annual report outlining the proposed work program prior to preparation of the annual Keweenaw County budget.
  - County Commissioners: Review Planning Commission recommendations on public works.
  - County Commissioners: Adopt an annual *Capital Improvement Program*. A Capital Improvement Program defines capital improvements as "...are those facilities which involve substantial investment and last a long time." Examples include new vehicles, maintenance equipment, computer equipment, major implements or construction of new facilities. Monies for capital improvements are a budgeted capital expense. The Capital Improvement Program shall show, in order of priority, the structures and

improvements that are needed or desirable and can be undertaken in the ensuing six year period. Each agency or department of the local government with authority for public structures and improvements, shall, upon request of the Planning Commission, provide list of projects with plans and estimates of time and costs.

- Chairman Jon Soper will meet with County Attorney, Donna Jaaskelainen, to discuss the legal ramifications specifically how the *Michigan Planning & Enabling Act* obligates the Planning Commission and the County Commissioners. Information from this meeting will be presented at the April 28, 2009, Planning Commission Meeting.
  
- Joan Nelson: Keweenaw County Equalization Director -Zoning Administrator reported:
  - Junk Cars in Grant Township: Complaint received, but junk cars must be resolved at the township level.
  - Illegal structure (sauna) in Grant Township reported. Notice to property owner processed.
  - A Citizens Planner Class offered by Michigan State University will be held in Hancock, Michigan for five weeks in May and June, 2009. Seven units of continuing education credit will be granted to attendees.

Meeting adjourned at 8 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Jim Huovinen

Recording Secretary