

Van Buren County Planning Commission
April 22, 2009
219 Paw Paw St. Paw Paw
Minutes

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Members in attendance: Ted Thar, , Pam Stermer, Kurt Doroh,, Connie Selles, Scott Cedarquist, Jeff Radtke, Celinda Gilmore, Jerry Campbell, Richard Corwin

Absent: Denise Massey

Public present: Dave Foerster

Agenda: Doroh/Corwin motion, unanimous vote to accept agenda

Minutes of March 25, 2009: Approved on a Doroh/Corwin motion, unanimous vote

Public Comment: Foerster inquired about Porter Twp. Status for Land Preservation Foerster also asked about Arlington Twp. Foerster also commented on the synopsis sheet asked for addition to be made.

Reports:

County Commissioner – Commissioner Massey: NA
Southwestern Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC) Representative –Radtke reported
Local visits – Doroh Land Preservation Board

Unfinished Business: County Land Use Planning – Thar reported that not a lot had been done on this front due to other projects. Members were given a synopsis sheet to take to locals when discussing upcoming planning sessions. Tentatively set planning session for a August/September time frame.

New Business:

Covert Twp. Zoning Text Amendment- Comments were made regarding the text amendments presented by McKenna & Assoc. The emphasis of discussion was on the definition of Single-wide trailer. Gilmore felt that they were not consistent with the HUD definition. She felt that this may be discriminatory and would possibly be challenged in the future. Radtke indicated that single wides are from 12-16 ft in width. Selles noted that Covert Twp. intended for this to clarify the language and did not accomplish this. If anything the definitions could confuse people by having a different definition than the norm. Cedarquist added that this would not be consistent with other plans we have reviewed.

Motion passed unanimously (Selles/Doroh) to **not concur** with Covert Twp Planning Commissions recommendations to their Board to make the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance sections 18.22 – 18.25 as written. VBCPC will ask Covert Twp. for clarification on their intent with these changes.

Meeting Adjourned - 7:30 Doroh/Stermer Motion unanimous