

**BROOKS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2022 @ 7:00 PM
APPROVED**

Members Present: Mark Pitzer, Pat Baker, Mark Guzniczak, Ryan Schultz, Chris Wren, Karl Frederiksen

Members Absent: Phil Knape

Staff Present: Cory Nelson

Chairman Pitzer, called the regular meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. This meeting was properly posted and a quorum of the Brooks Township Planning Commission was present.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Guzniczak, **seconded** by Wren to accept the agenda as written with the deletion of F-2 from New Business, as American Classic will not be here to do a presentation . **Unanimously Approved.**

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Guzniczak, **seconded** by Frederiksen to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 meeting. **Unanimously Approved**

Public Comment: None

Correspondence: None

Unfinished Business:

1) Continued ordinance review, Pitzer asked Nelson to readdress the sign ordinance issue as there had been a couple of citations handed out; Nelson mentioned Speedway and Jimmys Roadhouse, stating the ordinance is confusing, restrictive and according to the attorney invalid. Until this issue can be addressed further there will be no citations handed out. Guzniczak mentioned he would have some non permanent sign language that would be less restrictive and confusing for the next meeting for the members to review.

New Business:

- 1) Master Plan Review - Baker handed out a sheet of changes that needed to be made that she found; Pitzer mentioned Selter suggested a sub committee of 3 PC members be appointed to review the master plan changes, sending it to the planner, maybe having the public involved with input. It was decided amongst the members to not have a sub committee at this time, but send the Master Plan to the planner, Willimas & Works, for review to see what, if any, the current trends are and submit any concerns or changes they find.

- 2) Quackenbush-Cemetery : the presenters went thru the handout given to the members to explain the green burial; the natural landscape of the property; a conservation easement/nature preserve open to the public; that it would be protected in perpetuity with funds put aside; license from the Michigan State Cemetery Commission and certification from the Green Burial Council would need to be obtained; not sure if its going to be non profit or for profit; public vs private; surveys of people, many interested in green burials.

PC members mentioned at this time the ordinance allows no cemeteries, the township attorney recommends against it; that a hard yes or no could not be given at this time. PC would need to check with the attorney; to see a flexible business plan, is it non profit or for profit; layout of plots; land conservatory; what is needed to protect the township; what happens if the license is revoked from state commission; what does the Health Dept say; many concerns to be considered. Quackenbush will attend the next meeting with the various items the members wanted to see.

Staff Update: December and Year End for 2021, also January 2022 Zoning Report submitted – Per Joe Selzer

Public Comment: None

Planning Commission Members Comments: Comments received from:

- Guzniczak asked about the Annual Report required by the Zoning Enabling Act that the PC is supposed to turn into the township.
- Pitzer mentioned that he was going to be the chairman of the ZBA and could no longer be the chair of the PC, so next month Knape will chair the meeting until the elections of officers is done.
- Wren commented on not being prepared for the meeting regarding the cemetery information not being available beforehand and hoped it would not happen again. Other members agreed.
- Frederiksen mentioned the photos of the new Smugglers Cove he had seen on facebook and asked how that was coming along. Pitzer mentioned they had a preliminary meeting and it was moving forward.

Adjournment: Moved by Baker, **seconded** by Wren, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM.
Unanimously Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Baker
Planning Commission Secretary

Dianna Schaafsma
Recording Secretary