

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

April 7, 2021 Meeting

Approved on May 5, 2021

Due to a State of Emergency Order enacted by the Berrien County Board of Commissioners, the meeting was conducted electronically via a Zoom Video Meeting

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:42 PM by chairman John Chipman, with members, Doug Dow, Cam Mammina, Jerry Kohn, and Bill Marske present. Township Zoning Administrator Kelly Largent, township attorney Charles Hilmer, and Kim Livengood of the Township Zoning Department were also present. Members Andy Brown and Grace Rappe were absent.

Chairman Chipman introduced and welcomed the new Zoning Administrator Kelly Largent and new planning commission member Cam Mammina.

The Agenda was reviewed. Doug Dow moved to approve the agenda supported by Jerry Kohn. Roll call vote, with all voting yes, motion carried.

Minutes of the March 3, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Doug Dow moved to approve the minutes with changes, supported by Jerry Kohn. Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Chairman John Chipman gave an update on the status of the Red Arrow Highway / Harbert improvements. The committee is working with Wightman on landscape planning and the Road Commission has been working with businesses in Harbert on the Red Arroe Highway road improvements. The committee is also working with the Chikaming Township Park Board on changes to Harbert Park. The committee hopes to have the design work completed by the end of June.

Doug Dow reported on the Zoning Ordinance review, the committee has continued meeting weekly on reviewing the proposed changes and hope to be completed by the end of April or early May. He reviewed proposed changes that they have worked on so far.

Zoning Administrator Updates: None

New Business

Special Land Use Application SLU #205, Property Code No.: # 11-07-0012-0007-00-6, Address: 5366 Sawyer RD. Owners David and Mandi Buckland made their presentation for the proposed Tent Rentals via Airbnb with planning commission members asking questions. They are currently set up for three tents and would like to have a maximum of up to five tents. It was

suggested that the property owners contact the Berrien County Health Department to make sure that they meet all the Health Department regulations for primitive tent camping before the public hearing. Motion by Doug Dow to hold a public hearing on May 5, 2021 at 6:30 PM for Special Land Use #205, supported by Jerry Kohn. Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Site Plan Review: Local Pour, 12857 Red Arrow Highway, Wine, Beer, & Spirits tasting, Owner Chalet Sturgeon made her presentation of the site plan and answered questions from the planning commission members. The site plan will include outdoor seating, the hours that the business will be open are Sunday thru Thursday being 12:00 to 6:00 PM and on Friday and Saturday being 12:00 to 7:00 PM. Deliveries will be made in the morning before they open or after they close. They are working with the Road commission to resolve drainage issues on the County property adjacent to the business. They plan to rent the kitchen which has been approved by the Berrien County Health Department and the fire marshal. Motion by Doug Dow to approve the outdoor tasting room with hours of operation Sunday thru Thursday 12:00 to 6:00 PM and on Friday and Saturday 12:00 to 7:00 PM, with the condition that the owner work with the Zoning Administrator on the lighting and kitchen rental, supported by Cam Mammina. Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Election of Officers, Doug Dow moved to elect John Chipman Chairman for the next 12 months, supported by Bill Marske, Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried. Jerry Kohn moved to elect Doug Dow Vice-Chairman for the next 12 months, supported by John Chipman. Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried. John Chipman moved to elect Bill Marske Secretary for the next 12 months, supported by Doug Dow. Roll call vote, with all members voting yes, motion carried.

Public Comment, None

Adjournment: With no further business before the Commission Doug Dow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 PM, supported by Cam Mammina. Roll call vote, all members voted yes, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,
Bill Marske, Secretary, Chikaming Township Planning Commission