

**BERRIEN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 2:30pm

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	ALSO PRESENT
Lois Foster via Zoom in Niles	X		Katie Montoya via Zoom in Stevensville
Teri Freehling via Zoom in Baroda	X		Annette Christie, Berrien County Administration
J.B. Hoyt via Zoom in St Joseph	X		
Rodney Krieger		X	
Gregory Lammert via Zoom in Benton Harbor	X		
Dr. Eric Lester via Zoom in St Joseph	X		
James Schueneman via Zoom in Oro Valley, Arizona	X		
Lee Van Ginhoven via Zoom in Stevensville	X		
Vickie Wagner via Zoom in Three Oaks	X		
Lester White		X	
Vacancy			

Call to Order

Chairman Hoyt called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Minutes

Motion by Wagner, supported by Foster, to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020. Roll Call Vote as follows: 7 YEAS: Foster, Freehling, Hoyt, Lammert, Lester, Schueneman, Wagner. 1 Abstain: Van Ginhoven. 2 Absent: Krieger, White. Motion Carried.

Communications

- A. Nomination Committee Report – Schueneman and Lester reported on the nominations for 2021 Chair as Eric Lester and Vice Chair Gregory Lammert. Hoyt asked if there were any other nominations. Motion by Schueneman, supported by Van Ginhoven to accept the nomination for the January 2021 election. Roll Call Vote as follows: 8 YEAS: Foster, Freehling, Hoyt, Lammert, Lester, Schueneman, Van Ginhoven, Wagner 2 Absent: Krieger, White. Motion carried.
- B. Planning Commission Bylaws – Montoya briefly went over the Planning Commission Bylaws with discussion on membership make up, attendance and other housekeeping.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Oronoko Townshioip – Text Amendments: Accessory Structures and Buildings and adding Motels and Hotels as a Special Land Use in U-C district.

Montoya reviewed the text amendments to Section 3.04 Accessory Structures and Buildings and Uses along with Section 5.06 and 12. 03 adding Hotel and Motel to U-C District. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Wagner, supported by Schueneman, to concur with the Township Planning Commission recommendation. Roll Call Vote as follows: 8 YEAS: Foster, Freehling, Hoyt, Lammert, Lester, Schueneman, Van Ginhoven, Wagner. 2 Absent: Krieger, White. Motion Carried.

Miscellaneous

Committee Updates

Agriculture Preservation Board – Montoya reported that the Board announced a Purchase Development Rights Program funding round in June of this year and 3 applications from Royalton Township were submitted. The Michigan Agricultural Preservation Fund Board announced a funding round in October with a deadline December 28, 2020. This will be the first application for Purchase Development Rights Program submitted for Berrien County.

Southwest Michigan Planning Commission – Meeting is scheduled next week. Schueneman will provide an update in the January meeting. Freehling reported on Asset Management and will forward material as it is a Board of Commission priority.

Transportation – Lester updated members on the US 31 completion and related activities with TWIN CATS and NATS.

Parks Commission – Hoyt reported the erosion control work completed at Silver Beach and MDNR recommendation for a grant approval of acquisition of land adjacent to Madeline Bertrand Park for park expansion.

Hoyt addressed the Commission with recognition of Wagner's contribution and commitment to the Commission and thanked her for serving. Hoyt also thanked the Commission for being a member and enjoyed the experience.

Adjournment

Motion by Foster, supported by Van Ginhoven, to adjourn the meeting at 3:24 pm. Roll Call Vote as follows: 8 YEAS: Foster, Freehling, Hoyt, Lammert, Lester, Schueneman, Van Ginhoven, Wagner. 2 Absent: Krieger, White. Motion Carried and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Montoya