

**Leighton Township
Planning Commission
Minutes**

Date: December 10, 2008

Members Present: Al Zuidema, Scott Chestnut, Louis Murray, Harry DeHaan,
Dave Wright

Members Absent: Brian Martin(with Notice) and Ron Schrottenboer(with Notice)

Others Present: Mark Sisson (Township Planner) and Bob Jones, PCI

Art. 1 Chairman Zuidema called a Regular Meeting of the Leighton Township Planning Commission to order at 7:30 pm at the Leighton Township Hall.

Art. 2 Minutes –

Minutes of the November 12, 2008 were approved as presented.

Art. 3 Public Comments – None

Art. 4 Inquiry of Conflict – None

Art. 5 Public Hearing – None

Art. 6 Old Business – Planning Commission By-Laws

- a. Discussion ensued with Mark and the commission regarding the Planning Commission Bylaws. The PC members reviewed the rules of procedure that should be adopted by the Leighton Township Planning Commission.

Motion by Chestnut, supported by Wright to adopt the bylaws for the P.C. with the discussed changes. Sisson will present a formal resolution for adoption at the next meeting.

Roll Call Vote - Aye: Chestnut, Wright, Murray, DeHaan, Zuidema
Nay: None
Absent: Martin, Schrottenboer

Note: Sisson will present a formal resolution for adoption at the next meeting.

- b. **Zoning Ordinance Revisions**

Chairman Zuidema presented a list of Zoning Ordinance Revisions that the P.C. members had discussed throughout the year. The commission needs to review the draft and prioritize the list at the meeting in January. Tabled for next month's meeting.

- c. **Wayland Township Draft of Future Land Use**

Mark Sisson presented copies of Wayland Township's map and updated Master Plan. Sisson discussed the areas that Wayland Township would like to change. There is some inconsistency where Leighton Township and Wayland Township boundaries are located. Mark will draft a letter, for Al's signature, which will be mailed to Wayland Township.

Art 7. New Business –

- a. **Agenda for January** – Tabled for next month

- b. **2009 Meeting Schedule** –
Chairman Zuidema presented the 2009 Planning Commission Meeting Schedule to the commission. The schedule needs to be sent on to the Board and also posted at the Township Hall.

Motion by Chestnut, supported by DeHaan to approve the 2009 Meeting Schedule

All Ayes – Motion Carried

Art. 8 Other Business – Planning Commission Ordinance

- a. Mark Sisson presented the P.C. with a draft of a Planning Commission Ordinance. Discussion ensued that the Board needs to go forward and adopt the Ordinance to be in compliance with the Michigan Planning Enabling Act. All Planning Commission Boards will need to be re-created with a new or amended ordinance that complies with the act by 2011. The draft ordinance includes a provision that all P.C. members should attend educational programs sanctioned by the PC by-laws, if included in the budget passed by the Board. It was noted that for consistency reasons, this should be included in the new by-laws. The Planning Commission members recommended that the Ordinance be given to the Township Board for approval .

Art. 9 Commissioners Comments – Chairman Zuidema presented the following:

- a. Planning Commission Members should attend educational programs, if included in the Township budget. It was noted that this should be included in the new by-laws and Mark Sisson will check with Township Supervisor with regard to the 2009 Township Budget.
- b. Additional reports to be added to next year’s agenda, such as ZBA and Township Board updates.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Harmon, Recording Secretary
Leighton Township Planning Commission