



## **Township of Lapeer Planning Commission**

### **Lapeer County, Michigan**

1500 Morris Road, Lapeer, MI 48446

Phone (810) 664-3700

Fax (810) 667-4101

#### Members:

Tim Roodvoets, Chair

Ken Ewing, Vice-Chair

Ruth Lendt, Secretary

John Rutzen

Phillip Thick

Deborah Cady

Daniel Gingell

May 17, 2010

The Planning Commission Meeting was called to Order by Chair "pro-tem" Commissioner Phil Thick, at 7:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Phil Thick, Dan Gingell, Deborah Cady and John Rutzen were in attendance. Chair Tim Roodvoets and Commissioners Ruth Lendt and Ken Ewing were excused.

**Attendees:** Peter and Mary Taylor, Lapeer Township Residents-Morris Rd., Leonard Lumley, Lapeer Township Resident- Pinetree Lane, Lapeer Township Clerk, Dawn Walker, Lapeer Township Planner, Chris McLeod; and Lorrie Mead-Clancy, Recording Secretary

Board discussion with regard to the absence of Planning Commission Chair, Tim Roodvoets.

Motion by Commissioner Gingell, seconded by Commissioner Cady to appoint Commissioner Thick to Chair the meeting in the absence of Tim Roodvoets. All in favor. Motion Carried.

#### **Meeting Minutes**

**Agenda:** Motion by Commissioner Cady, seconded by Commissioner Gingell to approve the meeting minutes of April 19, 2010 and the meeting agenda for May 17, 2010 as presented. All in favor. Motion Carried.

**Public Time:** (Limited to three (3) minutes speaking time, regarding items not already on the Agenda.) Opened at 7:40 p.m. No comment. Closed at 7:41 p.m.

**New Business:** None at this time.

**Other Business:** **1. Medical Marijuana – Michigan Medical Marijuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2008**

Resident Peter Taylor, commented with regard to the State of Michigan having passed the Marijuana Act. Mr. Taylor indicated belief the Act was specific to patients with ailments that were considered to be beyond recovery. He further indicated belief medical marijuana was legalized in order to give the patients a better quality of life. He expressed concerns with the regulation of the proposed marijuana use and the criteria to be determined. Indicated he had recently spoken with the Lapeer County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney to express his concerns; Mr. Taylor stated he intended to do whatever necessary as a citizen of this community to prevent distribution in Lapeer Township.

Pro-tem Chair Thick indicated information as provided and further noted requirements as provided by the State of Michigan. He indicated the Approved

Act as being a controlled medical treatment for certain patients as designated by requirements previously set forth by the State of Michigan.

Planner, Chris McLeod indicated the Lapeer Township Board had placed a moratorium - a 90 day cease - in order to allow the Planning Commission the ability to develop an Ordinance regulating distribution. Once developed, the Planning Commission plans to make their recommendation to the General Board. At such time, the Board Township will adopt Ordinance Law to protect caregivers as distributors, as well as the medical users. In the instance of distribution - Home Occupation Regulations will apply. All Federal and State requirements must be met. Roundtable discussion followed.

Resident Mary Taylor expressed concerns with distribution locations.

Pro-tem Chair Thick, indicated medical marijuana is currently being dispensed in Dryden. He further noted the Commission plans to review and develop an Ordinance to address this issue, within Lapeer Township.

Planner Chris McLeod, indicated Township Attorney Gary Howell, will review the Draft Ordinance and make his recommendation. A Public Hearing would then be held and the public would be allowed to make comment...public concerns would be considered by the Township.

Commissioner Gingell indicated he had reviewed Ordinance information from several Municipalities. He indicated concerns with the number of applicants and caregivers applying with the State, as well as concerns with the ability to police the number of allowable plants.

Commissioner Rutzen indicated his participation at a Seminar recently during which several issues were brought to his attention. He expressed concerns for policy in issuing permits, proof of issuance to those that have applied, and noted concerns with the Act having been passed by such a large majority of the population. Commissioner Rutzen expressed the belief that limitations must be placed.

Commissioner Thick indicted he has worked in law enforcement for his entire career, which presents many questions to the various possibilities leading to bogus scenarios. Board discussion followed.

Consensus of the Board...items to be included in formulating a Draft Ordinance to address Michigan Medical Marihuana Act, Initiated Law 1 of 2008, within Lapeer Township:

1. limitations placed on locale
2. definition of dispensary
3. activity is determined as Home Occupation
4. allowable conditions
5. restrictions as allowed by law
6. required documentation and annual permits
7. enforcement procedures

Township Planner, Chris McLeod will provide draft information at the next meeting.

**Masterplan:**

Mr. McLeod presented draft information as discussed during the April 19, 2010 work session. He indicated the master plan is required to be reviewed every five (5) years, however that does not mean it must be revised. He further indicated

Board interest in the Residential Character, Land Use and Community Facilities within the Township, noting this to be an ongoing process of review. This will continue to be on the agenda. Discussion followed. Items to be reviewed within the master plan:

1. Home occupation versus land use policies
2. Density
3. Planning districts within the Township
4. Topography

**Parks and Recreation:** Commissioner Rutzen spoke regarding local Grant Funding for the park pavilion and concrete base. Accolades to Clerk Dawn Walker for her perseverance in obtaining Grant Funding for our Park. Discussion on material costs, equipment use, and contractor quotes for the replacement of fencing on the north-west side of the Township property. Commissioner Rutzen also indicated he had spoken with Ken Elwert from the Lapeer County Parks Department; with regard to use of their equipment in order to produce the signs for the Township park. He further indicated there to be natural woodchip pathways planned, adding that the trail location as designated on the map may require some correction on the north side; a survey must be completed prior to fence placement.

Resident, Peter Taylor suggested the possibility of this becoming an Eagle Scout Project.

**Old Business:** None at this time.

**Correspondence:** As in packet.

**Announcements:** General Board Meeting & Annual Board Meeting - June 4, 2010 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Commission Study Session - June 7, 2010 at 7 p.m.  
Planning Commission Regular Meeting - June 21, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

**Adjournment:** Having no further business to discuss - Motion by Commissioner Gingell, seconded by Commissioner Cady to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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Ruth Lendt, Secretary

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Lorrie Mead-Clancy, Recording Secretary