

**OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES
March 4, 2010**

Randy Stults, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting opened with roll call.

Planning Commission members present: Tim Baker, Erma Backenstose, Margaret Black, Nora Corfis, Russell Gregg, Susan LaVanway, and Randy Stults

Absent: none

A quorum was present.

Following the roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Hearings:

There was no public hearing.

Persons Requested by the Commission to Attend the Meeting:

None

Other Public Participation for Items on this Agenda:

No member of the public was present.

Housekeeping Business:

- Planning Commission Reports to the Board

March 18, 2010 – Randy Stults

- The next meeting of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission will be held April 1, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Otsego Lake Township Hall.

Public Comments, Communications Concerning Items on the Agenda and additions to the Agenda:

Chairperson Stults distributed portions of the current Otsego County Zoning Ordinance (2003-02, updated February 2007). The portions cited were relating to the screening of dumpsters.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairperson Stults asked for approval of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission Minutes dated February 4, 2010. Susan LaVanway moved the minutes be accepted as printed. Russell Gregg supported the motion. The motion passed with 4 ayes (Black, Gregg, LaVanway, and Stults) and 3 abstentions (Baker, Backenstose and Corfis).

Unfinished Business and Reports:

- Otsego County Planning Commission Activities

Randy Stults reported on the following County Planning Commission activities:

1. At its February 22, 2010 meeting, the Planning Commission approved revisions to the Wind Turbine Generator section of the Zoning Ordinance and sent it to the County Board of Commissioners.
2. Attorney Elliot Blumberg representing Christine Joswiak addressed the Planning Commission regarding the use permit of Northern Processing LLC for mining operations on her property. The 5-year use permit has expired. He also informed the Commission of a court order requiring Northern Processing to provide the Planning Commission with a reclamation plan.
3. The County has taken enforcement action for 25 dumpsters that do not comply with the Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Stults is asking for guidance from the Townships on what position the County should take regarding this non-compliance (i.e. no enforcement, modify the ordinance, or enforce the ordinance).

The Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission discussed the various options for enforcing compliance of existing dumpsters lacking the proper enclosure and screening. From a health and safety standpoint, trash and dumpsters need to be in a safe area to protect them from wind and animals. However a clear consensus about how to affect this, and not place an undue burden on businesses, was not reached by our Township Planning Commission.

- Township Board Representative Report

Tim Baker updated the Commission regarding Township activities. The Township will attempt to obtain grant money for the Fire Department to purchase a boat. Also contracts leasing the billboards on township property along I-75 were renewed for ten years.

- Reports from Planning Commission Members

Randy Stults updated the Commission about plans to provide funding for the County Zoning Department for the years 2011-2012. There was also discussion about how the Zoning Department would be reorganized, and the projected budget cuts proposed for the department.

- Draft Interchange Zoning District Language

The Planning Commission continued its review of the "Principle Uses Permitted" section for the zoning district.

New Business:

There was no new business on the agenda.

Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda:

There was no public participation for items not on the agenda.

Chairperson Stults adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary