

**OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
MAY 5, 2011**

Chairperson Margaret Black 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, Margaret Black, Nora Corfis, Russell Gregg, Susan LaVanway, and Randy Stults.

Members absent: none

A quorum was present[.]

Following roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

One member of the public was in attendance, Erma Backenstose.

**Public Hearings:**

There was no public hearing.

**Persons Requested by the Commission to Attend the Meeting:**

No one was requested to attend.

**Other Public Participation for Items on the Agenda:**

No member of the public was requested to attend.

**Housekeeping Business:**

The next meeting of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission will be June 2, 2011 at 7:00 pm at the Otsego Lake Township Hall.

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

Chairperson Black informed the Commission of an upcoming zoning training seminar sponsored by MTA, "Hot Topics in Planning and Zoning." It will be held June 15, 2011 at 5:30 pm at Treetops Resort in Gaylord. Several members expressed interest in attending. They are to contact the Township Clerk prior to the early-bird deadline of May 31, 2011.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Chairperson Black asked for approval of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission minutes dated April 7, 2011. Tim Baker moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Susan LaVanway supported the motion which passed unanimously by a voice vote.

### **Unfinished Business and Reports:**

- Otsego County Planning Commission Activities

Randy Stults provided an update on the activities of the Otsego County Planning Commission:

1. Mr. Stults informed the Township Planning Commission of changes made in April 2010 to the Highway Advertising Act which allows counties to regulate signs subject to the Highway Advertising Act if the township does not have its own regulation. As the Otsego Lake Township Billboard Ordinance does not regulate directional signs, directional signs are therefore regulated by the Otsego County Zoning Ordinance (which would allow directional signs only in B3 or I zoning districts).
2. The County Planning Commission met in April. The proposed Goodwill Industries of Traverse City Veteran's Housing Development on Murner Road was on the agenda. The Land Use Services Director Joe Ferrigan requested council from the County Planning Commission on the site plan approval for the development.
3. There will not be a meeting of the County Planning Commission in May.

- Township Representative Report

Tim Baker updated the Planning Commission on Township Board Activities.

1. There has been an appeal to the Fire Charge Ordinance regarding a roll over accident on I-75. While the applicant was not responsible for the accident, this was a very serious accident (1 fatality); and township fire trucks were called to the scene. The Board decided not to provide relief for the charges. The township has contacted its attorney to communicate with this gentleman.
2. Reports were heard from the Parks and Recreation Committee, Planning Commission, and Cemetery Committee.
3. The Board will be obtaining pricing for re-siding the Township Hall and Fire Hall.

4. Michawye is looking into allowing golf carts on their roads.
5. The County Sheriff asked the Township if it would consider opening all roads in the Township to ORVs. The Board took no action at this time.
6. Road improvements to West Otsego Lake Drive will be underway, and Mancelona Road will be next.

- Presentation of Draft Interchange Zoning District to County

Chairperson Black has contacted the county to be added to the planning commission agenda, and Joe Ferrigan will notify her via email when the Otsego County Planning Commission holds its next meeting.

- Ordinance to Confirm the Establishment of a Planning Commission

Randy Stults moved that the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission recommend the Otsego Lake Township Board move forward with the adoption of the "Ordinance to Confirm the Establishment of a Planning Commission" after review by township legal council, and to complete the adoption by July 1, 2011 (as required by Public Act 33 of 2008--Planning Enabling Act). The motion was supported by Russell Gregg and passed unanimously by voice vote.

### **New Business:**

- Review of Township Master Plan

The Commission made its five-year review of the Otsego Lake Township Master Plan. Randy Stults moved the findings of the Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission are:

The Otsego Lake Township Planning Commission finds in accordance with MCL 125.3845(2) that the Otsego Lake Township Master Plan adopted May 18, 2006 still meets the objectives and needs of Otsego Lake Township based on the limited demographic changes in the township because of limited growth in the township.

Tim Baker supported the motion which passed unanimously by a voice vote.

- County Zoning Ordinance Revisions on Mining and Dumpsters

The Commission reviewed the proposed changes to the County Zoning Ordinance. The changes concern mining operations and dumpster landscaping and screening. After much discussion, it was decided that the proposed regulations were not excessive. One suggestion made by Russell

Gregg, regarding securing mining access roads during non-operational hours by a gate, will be made to the county. The secretary will forward to Joe Ferrigan, Land Services Director, the Planning Commission's review of the proposed changes to the County Zoning Ordinance.

**Public Participation for Items not on the Agenda:**

There was no public participation.

**Reports Regarding Planning and Zoning from Each Member of the Commission, if any**

There were no additional reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm by Chairperson Black.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kara Corpio".

Secretary