

# Blue Lake Township

Kalkaska County, Michigan

## Minutes

Planning Board Regular Meeting

Saturday, August 4, 2018

11 Present

- I. Meeting Call to Order at 9:00 am - Allen
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Allen
- III. Roll Call of Members Present: Gruley, Allen, Sawasky, Shaw, Lavender, Peterson, Ross  
Also present: Kathy Campbell, Blair Shearer, Sandy Shearer, Donna Fisher
- IV. Adoption of Agenda – Allen - Motion to adopt agenda by Shaw with the addition of discussing meeting dates/times and Planning Board membership to New Business, supported by Sawasky, motion carried.
- V. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – Peterson will abstain from discussion of Home Based Business
- VI. Minutes of last meeting – Motion to approve minutes of last meeting dated June 6, 2018 by Shaw, supported by Lavender, motion carried.
- VII. Public Input –
  1. Big Twin Lake resident Donna Fisher presented the request to construct a storage shed on an existing flat area on her seawall. Several possibilities were discussed but with the current greenbelt ordinance, set-backs and ordinary high water mark (see Section 3.07 III-4) in place, an immediate solution could not be provided. B. Shearer offered to provide Fisher with the State of Michigan recommendations/guidelines for seawalls and what can be done with the approval of the DNR. Sawasky suggested that Fisher submit a written letter explaining her situation that would give the Planning Board a document to have in place and Lavender suggested that it could be presented to the Zoning Board.
  2. Squaw Lake resident Duane Radzwion submitted a written comment (via email) concerning Residence Based Occupations (see Section 3.05 III-2 - III-4). Feelings are that the current township ordinance currently in place is sufficient and the talks regarding the proposed changes would allow for a negative expansion of it.
  3. D. Fisher asked if there was any stipulation to parking utility trailers and boats on a person's property. Sawasky responded that if they are not blocking the right of way (33 1/2ft. from the center of the road) there is not much recourse. Shaw suggested that Fisher contact our community officer Brian Peacock to check the situation.
  4. Ross asked if he would be able to raise his existing shed on the lakeshore due to high water. The footprint would not change; it just needs to be raised. The board suggested that he contact the DEQ to confirm or deny his request.
- VIII. Report of Township Board Representative to Planning Commission – Shaw  
Shaw had nothing to report.
- IX. Report Planning Representative to the Zoning Board of Appeals – Sawasky  
Sawasky had nothing to report.
- X. Old Business –  
Discussion on better defining Section 3.05 – Home Business pg. III-2 continued. It was agreed that the current definitions under this section need to be further dissected and a third category (Residence Based Occupation) should be added to the current two: Home Occupation and Cottage Industries. A proposed definition was presented. Further clarification and quantitative guidelines describing a Residence Based Occupation will be carried to the next meeting.

**XI. New Business -**

1. Discussion to change Planning Board meetings to a day and time that would better accommodate the public. It was proposed to keep Wednesday 9am meetings but change one to a Saturday meeting and two to evening meetings. The Saturday meeting will remain the first Saturday in August at 9am and the October and April meetings will be the first Tuesdays at 7pm. Shaw will inform the Township Board of the schedule change.
2. It was determined that according to legal language, township employees cannot be voting members of the Planning Board. Recommend that the Township Board change the composition of the Planning Board to five (5) voting members and a non-voting secretary. Motion to make a recommendation to the Township Board of this change by Shaw, supported by Sawasky, motion carried.

**XII. Public Input - None**

**XIII. Planning Board Member Comments and Input – None**

**XIV. Set/Confirm Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 9:00 am at the Township Hall.

**XV. Adjournment –**

Motion to adjourn at 11:50am by Allen, supported by Sawasky, motion carried.

These minutes are not official until approved by the Blue Lake Township Planning Commission at the next scheduled meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Attested to:

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Janet Gruley, Secretary

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Rhonda Allen, Planning Board Chairperson