

VALLEY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2011

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Garofalo.

Roll Call:

Members present: Harry Smith, Carol Browne, Brandee Ellis, Fred Lewis, Tony Garofalo

Paul Shamblin, Zoning Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: The March 22, 2011 Planning Commission minutes were approved as read.

Approval of Agenda: The April 26, 2011 Planning Commission agenda was approved.

Comment: The Planning Commission members welcomed back Mr. Garofalo after his illness. Mr. Garofalo thanked everyone for their good wishes and support while he was away.

Old Business:

Outdoor Burning Ordinance

Final Review of the Outdoor Burning Ordinance resulted in one change:
7.2.8supervised by a competent person....in the first line of the section.

An announcement for a public hearing will be submitted to the newspaper by Clerk Ellis. The ordinance will be sent to the attorney for review and a public hearing will be held on May 24, 2011 during the regular town commission meeting.

Rescinding Camping Ordinance

This recommendation came from Zoning Administrator Paul Shamblin. He stated that no other township permits camping on private land and there is plenty of public land available for that purpose in Valley Township. He believes that the ordinance is causing many problems for enforcement.

Discussion continued pointing out that Valley Township allows camping while a permanent dwelling is being built; there is a restriction on the time of the year that camping on private land can occur due to the difficulty of access and removing waste from the campsite during the winter. The current ordinance was reviewed. It was decided the issue needed more discussion and consideration before any action was taken. Therefore it was voted to table this item until the next meeting.

New Business:

A. Election of Officers

Clerk Ellis nominated with support from Fred Lewis Tony Garofalo for Chair; Harry Smith for Vice Chair; Carol Browne for Secretary. No other nominations were presented. The nominees were unanimously elected by a roll call vote. The newly elected officers were sworn in by Clerk Ellis. She will be sworn in by Deputy Clerk Karen Popp.

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B. Annual Report March 2010 – April 2011

The annual report was reviewed and approved. It will be presented to the Valley Township Board for their approval at the next Township meeting. The Report will be kept in the Township office and will be available for public review.

C. Medical Marihuana Ordinance

Discussion resulted in treating the Medical Marihuana ordinance as a home business that requires being registered with the township. All of the requirements of a home business will pertain to a medical marihuana establishment. It was also suggested that no signage or advertising be permitted and that no more than 5 patients be assisted within one calendar week. The use of smoke houses and marihuana dispensaries should be prohibited.

Secretary Browne will write a first draft for review at the May 24th meeting.

Zoning Administrator Report

No report

Open Discussion on Non-Agenda items

No comment

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Browne, Secretary