

VALLEY TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF TUESDAY MAY 24, 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 April 26, 2011 Planning Commission minutes were approved as read.

Approval of Agenda: The May 24, 2011 Planning Commission agenda was approved.

Public Hearing on Outdoor Burning Ordinance Called to Order (7:10 pm)

Comments and Suggestions:

Section 2.4: add "except recreational campfires and bonfires."

Section 4.1: suggested "approximately" in place of "no more than."

Section 6.1.1 delete "construction and demolition waste."

Section 7.21: replace "X" with Section 12.

Section 7.25: suggested removal of section or add "commercially generated refuse."

Section 7.27: suggested 200 feet is too far.

Add Section 10.4: No burn permit required for outdoor wood fired boilers.

Public Hearing on Outdoor Burning Ordinance Closed (8:23 pm)

Old Business:

Outdoor Burning Ordinance

Modifications Accepted:

Section 2.4; Section 7.21; Section 10.4

Questions about other section modifications were delayed until the Township Attorney can be contacted.

Rescinding Camping Ordinance

Discussion resulted in a motion to defer any action on this Ordinance until March 2012 to allow the Township more time to gather information on how the current Ordinance is working. Chair Garofalo requested that the Zoning Administrator keep the Planning Commission informed of complaints about this Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

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Medical Marihuana Ordinance

Continued discussion of this item was postponed until the June 28th 2011 meeting.

New Business:

No new business was presented.

Zoning Administrator Report

Administrator Shamblin reported progress was being made on situations at Round Lake involving clean up and removal of a condemned property. He is monitoring a situation of abandoned automobiles that might be a contamination issue. An unlicensed trailer has been removed from the township. The Mushroom Farm building that had been condemned is being torn down.

Open Discussion on Non-Agenda items

Comment from audience: A resident said camping permits are not available at the township. Another resident felt that communication with the public could be improved. She was not aware of the recent election and wondered if information could be put in the Township newsletter and perhaps a small ad in the paper about when meetings are scheduled. The information is on the website but she does not have a computer. She also requested a copy of a Township map. Clerk Ellis gave her a map. She commented further that the Planning Commission is elected to represent the people. The Planning Commission needs to listen and weigh opinions from people who attend meetings more heavily than those who do not attend.

Secretary Browne informed the Commission that she will be absent from the July and possibly the August meeting. Clerk Ellis agreed to take minutes in her absence.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol S. Browne, Secretary