

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
REGULAR MEETING PLANNING COMMISSION
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos MI 48864-1198
517.853.4000, Township Hall Room
MONDAY, March 25, 2024, 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Chair Shrewsbury, Vice-Chair Snyder, Commissioners Blumer, Brooks, McCurtis, and Scales

ABSENT: Commissioner McConnell

STAFF: Senior Planner Brian Shorkey, Director Tim Schmitt

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chair Shrewsbury called the March 25, 2024, regular meeting for the Meridian Township Planning Commission to order at 6:29pm.
2. ROLL CALL
Chair Shrewsbury called the roll of the Board. All board members present except Commissioner McConnell.
3. PUBLIC REMARKS
None.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Commissioner Blumer moved to approve the March 25, 2024, regular Planning Commission meeting agenda. Seconded by Vice Chair Snyder. Motion passed unanimously.
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Commissioner Scales moved to approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2024, Planning Commission Regular Meeting as amended. Seconded by Commissioner Blumer. Motion passed unanimously as amended.
6. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. None
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - A. SUP #22-021 – Silverleaf Floodplain SUP Extension

Senior Planner Shorkey reviewed the work that has been done. Approval was granted in 2022 for Phase 1, however construction has not yet begun. According to ordinance, an extension needs to be granted for the SUP by the Planning Commission for the applicant to continue. The plan meets the criteria for extension. No resolution of approval is required, but a vote must be held. Commissioner Scales asked for clarity about the timing of the extension application. Chair Shrewsbury asked for clarity regarding the waiting period in the Commission bylaws.

Chair Shrewsbury opened public comment at 6:38

Chair Shrewsbury closed public comment at 6:38

Commissioner Blumer made a motion to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Scales. Motion passed unanimously.

VOICE VOTE YEAS: Chair Shrewsbury, Vice-chair Snyder, Commissioners Blumer, Brooks, McCurtis, and Scales

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

Commissioner Scales made a motion to waive the waiting period and make a final decision today. Seconded by Vice-chair Snyder.

ROLL CALL VOTE YEAS: Chair Shrewsbury, Vice-chair Snyder, Commissioners Blumer, Brooks, McCurtis, and Scales

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

Commissioner Scales made a motion to provide an extension for Special Use Permit #22-021 in accordance with our zoning ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Brooks.

ROLL CALL VOTE YEAS: Chair Shrewsbury, Vice-chair Snyder, Commissioners Blumer, Brooks, McCurtis, and Scales

NAYS: None

Motion carried: 6-0

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. None

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. RN – Village of Nemoka Ordinance Update Discussion

Senior Planner Shorkey explained changes Planning staff made at behest of the Planning Commission, adding more detail as requested. Commissioner Scales asked if the area is different than other areas in the township because it is designated as a historic district, and if that will affect the proposed changes. Commissioner Brooks and Commissioner Blumer each asked for clarity about the need for language changes and about the uniqueness of the Village of Nemoka. Shorkey clarified that there is nothing unique in the language, however if the Planning Commission sees the area as unique, it might be appropriate to look at uses by right. Chair Shrewsbury asked to continue discussion at the next meeting.

B. Marijuana Update

Director Schmitt updated the Planning Commission regarding the Board process allowing Recreational Marijuana. Five applications were received in Jan during the application period. The review subcommittee made recommendations - three applications are the only applications in the respective zones will go to the Township Board on April 2nd for public hearing, the other

two will come back for a separate public hearing. The Planning Commission will become involved when the SUP process begins. Commissioner Scales requested a list of owner's names of licensees.

C. Planning Commission Number Change Discussion

Director Schmitt stated that the Township Board is supportive of the idea to reduce the size of the Planning Commission. Chair Shrewsbury clarified that the discussion surrounding the decision has to do with comparison to similar sized communities and the number of members on similar bodies.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board Update

Director Schmitt stated that the Board adopted Shaw St rezoning, which is driving the RN district discussion. The Board turned down the storage facility. At April 8 meeting, the Commission should anticipate a request from the developers for Village of Okemos for concept plan review for changes to their MUPUD plan. It is not a formal submittal so there is no public hearing required, though public is always welcome to comment.

B. Liaison Reports

Commissioner McCurtis reported that ZBA met and reviewed variances.

11. PROJECT UPDATES

A. Project Report

Senior Planner Shorkey indicated that there were no changes.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Brooks asked, regarding the change in number of Commissioners, that any impact on current rules be brought forward as part of the discussion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Shrewsbury called for a motion to close the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Commissioner Scales moved to close the March 25, 2024 regular meeting of the Planning Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Blumer. Motion passed unanimously.