

Republic Township Planning Commission
Regular Meeting May 10, 2021

Draft

1. Call to Order by Chair John Kraft at 7:30 pm
Present: T. Sandblom, S. Christian, D. Harold, Val Workman, John Dulek (zoning administrator)
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion by S. Christian to approve agenda, 2nd by T. Sandblom, motion passed.
3. Approval of April 12, 2021 meeting minutes: Motion to approve minutes by T. Sandblom, 2nd by V. Workman, motion passed.
4. Reports:
 - a) Zoning Administrator:
 1. 6 building permits, 5 approved, 1 needing approval of a fence in writing from neighbor.
 - b) Recreation Committee:
 1. Dates set to paint swing sets, stain picnic tables. Melanie Brennan now on committee.
 2. Repair Munson Park dock.
 3. People on Facebook Republic page, possible to ask for more volunteers on that site.
 3. Beach pavilion to be painted by Marilyn Hemmila and others from the 150th committee.
 4. Repairing and shoring up the observation deck overlooking the mine. Rails on Welcome Center needs to be fixed.
 5. Need to advertise these things to get help.
 6. 90 acres has been surveyed. Issue with deed, looking into it before it can be recorded, no grants till this is completed.
 - c) PC Chair:
5. Old Business:
 - a. Unanimous vote on PC meeting to begin at 7:00 pm instead of 7:30.
6. New Business:
 - a. PC chairman stepping down into Vice Chair, V. Workman to be PC Chairman and J. Kraft to be Vice Chair: motion to approve by D. Harold, 2nd by S. Christian, motion passed.

- b. Fir trees have beetles and dying, does Township have a plan, possible fire hazard. Timber Industry has been affected.
- c. Michigamme Township Planning Comm. needs to be read for discussion next PC meeting.
- d. Capital Improvement Plan Guide: highlights read, discussion on why it is necessary, encouraged to read for next month's meeting to discuss further.

7. Public Comment:

a. Karen Richards from Republic Non-Profit Housing came to discuss needing help. Funding is from Hud & Rural Development and is lacking for what needs to be done. She has been working with this since the late 80's and is in need of finding solutions so that the Apartment complex is not sold. Management Co. Upcap from Escanaba is proposing selling to an LLC (which would be funded federally) and Republic would lose local control. Republic could lose the doctor's office if loss of local control was gone. Buildings (24 units) have good quality windows and have been insulated recently. Repair of fire escapes has been done. Discussion of how PC could bring Ms. Richards existing board of 5 under our wing to help with grants and other things: asked her to come to next PC meeting to see what could be put in place. Possibility of creating the Republic Non-Profit Housing Committee, maybe even temporarily.

8. Adjourn:

a. Next meeting June 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm Motion to adjourn by D. Harold, T. Sandblom 2nd, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Signed: Deborah Harold Date: 6/8/21

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