

John Ison, Vice Chair
Tracy Wilkinson

John Kraft, Chairperson

Frank Haslip, Board Rep.
Tom Sandblom

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

July 8, 2019

Draft Minutes of the July 8, 2019 Regular Planning Commission meeting.

- 1) Meeting was **called to order** at 7:00 P.M. by the Chairman, J. Kraft.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance** was given
- 3) Agenda was approved after a motion by T. Sandblom, supported by F. Haslip.
- 4) It was noted the secretary, S. Suomi and Vice Chair J. Ison had called in to the Chairperson, J. Kraft notifying they would be absent from the community. Both were excused. The Zoning Administrator agreed to take the minutes for the meeting.
- 5) Silent **roll call** taken: T. Sandblom, J. Kraft, Chairperson, & F. Haslip were in attendance. S. Suomi was absent and excused, as was J. Ison.
- 6) The **minutes for the June 10, 2019 meeting** were approved after a motion by T. Sandblom, supported by F. Haslip.
- 7) **REPORTS:**
 - Zoning administrator reported applications had been received today for a new garage structure and a cantilevered balcony.
 - The Recreation Committee reports are attached. The Rec Committee will not meet for the summer. Next meeting is in September
Playground equipment has been installed at the beach. New small craft boat launch will be completed by the end of August.
 - The PC Chair quickly reviewed the new recreational marihuana guidelines. Stressed being careful to follow the new time and rules guidelines.
- 8) **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A brief status update was given on the Master Plan. It has been completed and adopted.
 - Medical Marihuana issues will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - Zoning Administrator will mail a packet to each PC member with the final draft for the Shipping Container definition, and the proposed amendment to Section 405 Subsections F. & G. for review and potential approval at the August 12, 2019 meeting.
- 9) **NEW BUSINESS: None.**
- 10) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public Comment
- 11) **ADJOURNMENT:** Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Gary Johnson

Zoning Administrator & acting secretary.

Republic Township
Recreation Committee
Minutes of June 6, 2019
draft

1. Call to Order: 7:05pm
2. Members present: James Brennan, Stephanie Oakley
3. Members absent: Jake Spear, Kim Issacson, Drew Griepentrog
4. Approval of the Agenda for June 6, 2019: James Brennan made the motion, Stephanie Oakley 2nd, Motion passed.
5. Approval of the Minutes of May 1, 2019: James Brennan made the motion, Stephanie Oakley 2nd, Motion passed.
6. Public comment: none
7. Old Business:
 - a) Sub-Committee/IOHT building: James Brenna gave report that they met at the building on June 5, 2019. He has questions for the architect and looking at the space available. The next sub-committee meeting will be on 6-25-2019 at 1pm.
 - b) Should have permit applied for by Monday June 10, 2019 for a *BOAT RAMP WEST OF M-95*
 - c) Playground: Has been installed since last meeting.
8. New Business:
 - a) James Brennan made a motion to not meet in July and August and to resume meetings in September 2019. Next meeting is September 5, 2019. Stephanie Oakley 2nd the motion, Motion passed.
9. Public Comment: none
10. Adjournment: Stephanie Oakley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm, James Brennan 2nd the motion, Motion passed.

Stephanie Oakley
Secretary



REPUBLIC RECREATION
COMMITTEE
PO BOX 338
REPUBLIC, MI 49879
906-376-8827
republictownship@gmail.com

Republic Township Recreation Committee

Will hold a Meeting

May 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Township Hall

To discuss the future usage of IOHT Head Building

**For floor space and Recreational needs of Republic
Township.**

**The regular Recreation Committee Meeting will held
immediately following.**



REPUBLIC RECREATION
COMMITTEE
PO BOX 338
REPUBLIC, MI 49879
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Republic Township
Recreation Committee
Public input on the Iron ore heritage trail, and Republics recreational needs
Minutes for May 1st, 2019

- 1) Call to Order: 7:00pm
- 2) Members Present: James Brennan, Jake Spear, Kim Issacson, Stephanie Oakley, Drew Griepentrog
Members Absent: Ikey Todd
- 3) Approval of the agenda: James Brennan made the motion to approve, 2nd by Stephanie Oakley, motion passed
- 4) Opened meeting for discussion:
 - a. Jim Kippola spoke on the behalf of the Republic area historical society. He gave the following recommendations and input :
 - A letter was brought in that was submitted to the Republic township board on August 21, 2016. The letter reflects the concerns regarding the use of the building. (Letter attached to minutes)
 - A timeline of Republics history displayed in the IOHT building that would include; wall murals, display cases and pictures.
 - Work with the Iron ore heritage trail and other clubs in the area to present their history of the area.
 - A kiosk in the IOHT building that would display maps, brochures, etc.
 - To discuss hours and operation and running of the building, and is willing to help.
 - James Brennan also mentioned future Republic recreation possibilities:
 - Ninety acres to be developed for multiple recreational uses.
 - A playground is being installed at the beach
 - Boat launch on the west side of M-95 bridge.
 - b. Jim Kippola spoke of the recreational needs of Republic Township.
 - To gain an access point across from Perch lake to the Republic wetland preserve.
 - c. John Ulrich spoke about building a disc golf and regular golf course.
 - d. Drew Griepentrog mentioned putting a brochure together that would show different areas of recreation in Republic Township.
 - e. Kim Kippola stated that phase one has started in cleaning the Beulah house for future historical use.
 - f. John Ulrich stated the mural in the IOHT building. It needs to be removed and needs original artists permission.
 - g. James Brennan wants to note that the date of this meeting was displayed in the April Republic Township newsletter, and notices were displayed at 6 locations around town.
- 5). Adjournment: Jake Spear made the motion to adjourn, Drew Griepentrog 2nd, meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Secretary
Stephanie Oakley

Stephanie Oakley





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Republic Area Historical Society

P.O. Box 201

Republic, Michigan 49879

August 21, 2016

Republic Township Board
P. O. Box 338
Republic, MI 49879

In March of 2008 when the township board was contemplating purchase of the former Republic State Bank building, our society provided a letter strongly supporting your efforts and welcomed the opportunity to participate in the revitalization our community. A copy is attached.

It is our understanding that the township now owns the building with funds provided by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. We further understand that a grant application has been submitted to rehabilitate the building to meet handicap accessibility standards and that approval is pending.

The township has achieved much in terms of developing our village into a recreational destination as evidenced by the development of the campground, designation of Republic as a trailhead for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, completion of the trail within township boundaries, and acquisition of the bank building.

Our society has continuously envisioned enhancing a visitor's experience at the Welcome Center and trailhead by developing an exhibit on the history of Republic. To that end, we have recently applied for a grant from the Lundin Mining Company. We have been informally advised that we will be awarded a \$1,500 grant to outfit a portion of the building with large mural photographs and accessory display items.

In view of the anticipated closure of the current occupant of the building and the anticipated renovations on receipt of the pending grant, our society has concerns regarding use of the building. We are not aware of a formal plan for use of the building. If one does not exist, we strongly recommend the township take steps to formalize in writing:

- (1) policies reflecting conditions or restrictions of the MNRTF grant
- (2) who or what groups are permitted to occupy the building and for what purposes
- (3) who pays for utilities
- (4) how it will be staffed
- (5) allocation of space,
- (6) what hours or days it will be open, and
- (7) responsibilities of those using the building.

Our society wants to participate, but desires that a formal plan speaking to these concerns be developed. It should be of a long-term nature and should take into consideration all stakeholders. We therefore request that the township board task the planning committee with development of such a plan for approval by the township board before any action on further use of the building is taken.

Sincerely

Ken Salo
President

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR AND BY THE COMMUNITY

REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP
EDITOR IN CHIEF, LORI
BURTON

Republic Township News

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 37

SPRING, 2019

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS!

- Township Hall
376-8827
- Hardware
Store 376-2032
- St Vincent's
376-2400
- Summer place
376-2419
- Beauty Nook
376-2456
- Maki's 376-
8220
- TruNorth 376-
0988

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TruNorth Credit Union to close Republic Branch

EDITOR'S STORY OF THE MONTH

Most everyone has heard by now that TruNorth has made the unfortunate decision to close their branch here in Republic. We have been told that this is to take place by the end of this summer. This is indeed a devastating blow for a number of reasons.

It is a safe bet that the majority of us do our banking business with TruNorth and have come to depend on having this branch here for our use. When winter weather makes the roads impassable, or at the very least a nuisance to drive on, we are relieved to have this financial institution so close to home. This doesn't just include personal accounts; business accounts are going to be affected as well. Most of our businesses are run by sole proprietors and it will be nearly impossible to get away from their business long enough to drive all the way in to Ishpeming, do their banking, then come back. What once used to be a 15-20 minute task will now take over three times that long.

Many of you know that the Township is working very diligently to get new businesses to come to our township. With no banking capability here in town, this makes the job of attracting new businesses nearly impossible.

Another problem, is that this is a loss of revenue for the Township. The rents collected are saved in a capitol improvement account. This means it will take longer to save up for various improvements throughout the Township.

I, personally believe that TruNorth needs to see us as people rather than just account numbers on a spread sheet. The Board of Directors has forgotten that we are real people with real needs. I think it is important that if you choose to write a letter of protest to the Board of Directors, that you make it personal and tell them how YOU are being affected by this. It may not matter, but it never hurts to try.

If you wish to write a letter of protest, please mail it to :
TruNorth Board Members
1419 N. 2nd St.
Ishpeming, MI 49849

Public Input Meeting for Old Bank Building

On Wednesday, May 1st @ 7:00pm, the Recreation Committee will hold a public input meeting for those interested to come to ask questions and provide input as to the usage of this building. The Michigan DNR is providing Grant Funding to make this building one of the Welcome Centers for the Iron Ore Heritage Trail. Please come out and provide input for the usage of this very valuable resource.

RECREATION COMMITTEE
MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET
5-1-19

- ① John Ulrich
- ② Mary Ulrich
- ③ Edna Johnson
- ④ Fabiane Antilla
- ⑤ Marilyn Delmida
- ⑥ Olga Williams
- ⑦
- ⑧
- ⑨
- ⑩

REPUBLIC RECREATION
COMMITTEE
PO BOX 338
REPUBLIC, MI 49879
906-376-8827
republictownship@gmail.com

Republic Township
Recreation Committee
Minutes for May 1st, 2019

- 1) Call to order: 7:32pm
- 2) Members present: James Brennan, Jake Spear, Kim Issacson, Stephanie Oakley, Drew Griepentrog
- 3) Members absent: Ikey Todd
- 4) Approval of the minutes of April 4th 2019: Motion to approve made by Kim Issacson, 2nd by Stephanie Oakley, motion passed
- 5) Public comment: none
- 6) Old business:
 - a. Sub-committee for the IOHT building: James Brennan and Drew Griepentrog will work with Jim Kippola. They will work on a concept of the floor space to present to the Township board. A date has been set for June 5th 2019 at 1pm at the IOHT building to discuss the floorspace.
 - b. Signs and brochure update for river access: James Brennan states that he will move it to the board at Mays Township Board Meeting.
- 7) New business:
 - a. Discuss the public input usage of the IOHT building, and the recreational needs of Republic. James Brennan made a motion to pass the minutes of the public input meeting to the Planning Commission to be added to the five year recreation plan. Jake 2nd, motion passed.
- 8) Public comment: There were comments from the public on a variety of topics:
 - staining the remaining picnic tables
 - tour guide of the areas recreational opportunities.
 - music in the park
 - observation deck: James Brennan said he would talk to Roger Crimmons about the maintenance.
- 9) Kim Issacson made the motion to adjourn, 2nd by Jake Spear, meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Secretary
Stephanie Oakley

Stephanie Oakley

