Republic Planning Commission January 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

**I**. **Call to Order at 7:02**

**II**. **Pledge of Allegiance**

**III**. **Roll Call:** Carrie Biolo, Cassidy Gibson, Michael Serota, Ryan Barry, Irene Dishno

1. Ryan Barry is absent

**IV**. **Approval of December Minutes**

1. Minutes are unanimously approved

**V**. **Approval of Agenda**

1. Agenda is unanimously approved

**VI**. **Public comment**

1. None

**VII. Reports**

1. Township and Board Member:
2. No final conclusion on Heritage Trail, they are possibly cutting hours to cut costs due to high light bills. Other options are being evaluated, due to out of state snowmobile who rely on it
3. A changed schedule is recommended, it's an open conversation for now, no vote on the change so far. They will continue to look into solutions like timer on thermostat, LED lights, motion activated lights, etc.
4. Carrie discusses on the millage and what it pays for, but the township is responsible for this building and upkeep
5. Hair scramble Aug 2nd 3rd—motor gross event and discussion on the event logistics
6. Crimen Spillway Property for sale discussed by the heritage center with no conclusion
7. Discussion on Dennis Harold’s resignation and brief Discussion on Welcome Center
8. Daniel Stuckel not approved yet but the letter will hopefully be approved for New Board Member and Dawn Schu has resigned from the board completely
9. Zoning Administrator:
10. Not Present
11. New administrator is Larry Schulzt

**VIII. Old Business**

1. Short-Term Rentals
2. Irene:
3. Mention of HouseBill 5438
4. Rentals bring more people, where do people stay as we hold more events and tourist opportunities
5. we have had past success in the town as well as non-success
6. Concern with daily living and noise level with community, need an assigned individual for emergency contact to follow regulation
7. Should be the best for the most amount of people
8. Rentals should take up no more than 30% of residential area
9. Rentals should taxed as businesses
10. Carrie:
11. Discussion about rental registration and how to encourage it
12. How can this generate money for the township
13. Cassidy:
14. Who is enforcing rental regulations, and is this feasible
15. Mike:
16. Who enforces rental properties
17. Should there be an application and a possible fee
18. Rentals create opportunity for jobs
19. Should they have to be a resident to rent out property
20. Motion to table with the condition that members will do research on other ordinances throughout the state and other similar townships regarding the registration of short-term rental properties as such is unanimously passed

**IX. New Business**

**X. Commission Member Reports**

1. **Carrie Biolo:**
2. Thank you for coming and please be respectful of Robert’s Rules
3. Update on planning commision member needed to join adjacent committee to come, motion to have Irene research about the committee is unanimously passed
4. **Cassidy Gibson**
5. Further discussion on rental properties and remedies to issues foreseen
6. **Michael Serota**
7. Rec Committee no confirmation that the rec plan was received, maybe submitted but not approved and needs to be approved by Feb 1st in order for funding
8. Casey Sari is Chair, Mike is Vice Chair, Maddy Serato is secretary
9. Master Plan on website PDF and discussion on development
10. **Ryan Berry**
11. **Irene Dishno**
12. Loud disturbances need to be mitigated, regarding short-term rentals
13. Discussion on censuses, do they track rentals
14. Discussion on how to enforce regulations on rental properties

**XI. Public Comment**

1. Public asks if there are any current regulations
2. There are no current regulations or ordiances

**XII. Adjournment**

1. The meeting is unanimously adjourned at 7:51