

BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Bridgewater Township Government Center
Thursday, June 25, 2020
Official Minutes

- ❖ John Klockeman called the meeting to order at 7:00
- ❖ Members present were John Klockeman, Ray Larson, Larry Alderks, Jeff Johnson, Kurt Schrader, Frances Boehning, Bruce Morlan, and Jim and Carolyn Braun. Supervisors present were Kathleen Kopseng and Tracy Jonkman.
- ❖ Guests present were James Bull, Henry Bull, and Nate Watters
- ❖ Bruce Morlan made a motion to approve the agenda, Jeff Johnson seconded, all approved.
- ❖ Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2020, Bruce Morlan seconded, all approved.

- ❖ Open Forum: None. Closed at 7:07 pm. No Comment

- ❖ Public Hearings: None Scheduled

- ❖ Old Business:
 - Review of revised draft land use chart.
 - Carolyn Braun reviewed the updates to the zoning chart
 - Carolyn Braun will look at adding a statement regarding shoreland and flood plain areas. This may be covered in the initial pages.
 - It was noted that between pages one and two, there was concern regarding how sentences were being printed between pages.
 - Mineral extraction – New mines are not currently allowed.
 - Per Jim Braun we have four pits open in the township; Quame, Castle Rock, Heselton, and the old DeGroot pit.
 - Jim Braun is setting up a meeting between Castle Rock and the Supervisors.
 - The Planning Commission suggested leaving the current mining ordinance as is.
 - Grain Terminals
 - Carolyn Braun will review to see if grain terminals are allowed by Rice County.
 - Wineries
 - Wineries and cideries are considered to be the same.
 - A discussion regarding the agricultural tourism's definition of a "tasting" and ag-related vs non-ag related was held.

- Carolyn Braun will research these definitions and respond to the Planning Commission.
 - The term “event” needs to be clarified.
 - Is any day that the business is open considered an “event”?
 - How many days a year can a winery be “open”?
 - Larry Alderks asked if signage should be placed for all events or certain ones.
 - Nate Watters supplied a copy of the Conditional Use Permit for another winery in Rice County.
 - It was decided that for a Conditional Use Permit for an ag-tourism business, that the attendance at one time would be limited to 350 people.
 - The local landowners are concerned regarding the amount of traffic that winery events generate and that the gravel road was not built for the number of cars using it.
- Review draft standards for following items:
 - Standards for Residential and Related Uses; Licensed Residential Facilities; Roof-top and free-standing solar energy systems.
 - Items were reviewed – no changes as we have to follow county.
 - Agriculturally related businesses
 - Under 1.d. – Livestock barns are listed as permitted, but under land use chart, they are listed as prohibited.
 - Carolyn Braun will review to see if these are allowed and if a sales barn would fall under a “commercial use”.
 - It was requested to change the wording in 1.d. to “transfer station”.
 - Greenhouse and nursery sales - no changes
 - Temporary Farm Dwelling - no changes
 - Food Sales/Service - no changes
 - Seasonal Roadside Stand - no changes
 - Commercial Recreational Uses - no changes
 - Campgrounds – Additional definitions are needed and different categories (i.e. group, primitive, . . .)
 - Flying Field - no changes
 - Outdoor Gun Range – A question was asked regarding if something could be added regarding safety staff on hand at the site?
 - John Klockeman asked that the Planning Commission read through the remaining standards. These will be covered at the next meeting.

- ❖ New Business: None

- ❖ Miscellaneous: - Compliance Updates
 - Jim Braun reviewed that he is working to continue to get the homeowners to clean up their properties, legal action is being taken against properties that have not complied.
 - The house on Timberlane is being reviewed.
 - Rural Internet - Jim Braun has no new updates.
 - Industrial Parks Status – Carolyn Braun will get an update from the board for the next meeting.
 - Race Track Status – This project is no longer viable.
 - Comprehensive Plan Status – There is no update – Brauns will ask Glen Castore for an update.
 - Ordinance Review Schedule – Carolyn Braun noted that due to the major setbacks as a result of the winery questions, there is no revised schedule.
 - Bruce Morlan noted that he will be talking to the cities regarding storm water.

- ❖ Adjourn – Bruce Morlan made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm, Jeff Johnson seconded, all approved.