1 **Charter Township of Kalamazoo** 2 Minutes of a Planning Commission Meeting 3 Held on May 3, 2018 4 5 6 A regular meeting of the Kalamazoo Charter Township Planning Commission was conducted on May 3, 7 2018 commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Hall. 8 9 Present were: 10 Jeremy Hathcock 11 Denise Hartsough 12 Fred Nagler, Chairman 13 Jim Cripps 14 **Henry Dingemans** 15 **Tonnie Hitt** 16 Absent: 17 18 None. 19 20 Also present were Township Manager Dexter Mitchell; Township Zoning Administrator Patrick Hudson,; 21 Township Attorneys Roxanne Seeber and Seth Koches; and approximately fifteen additional interested 22 persons. 23 24 **Call to Order** 25 26 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. 27 28 **Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors** 29 30 The Chairman called the roll, noting that all were present. 31 32 **Approval of Meeting Minutes** 33 34 The first item on the agenda was approval of the Planning Commission regular meeting minutes of 35 February 1, 2018, the February 8, 2018 special Planning Commission meeting minutes, and the April 5, 36 2018 regular Planning Commission meeting minutes. Copies of these meeting minutes were included in 37 the Commissioner's packets. The Planning Commission reviewed the minutes and minor revisions were 38 made to each set of meeting minutes. Upon motion of Hartsough, supported by Hathcock and 39 unanimous voice vote, the minutes of the of February 1, 2018 regular Planning Commission meeting, the 40 minutes of the February 8, 2018 special Planning Commission meeting; the February 1, 2018 Planning 41 Commission meeting; and the minutes of the April 2018 regular Planning Commission meeting were 42 approved with the noted revisions. 43 44 Approval of the agenda for the May 3, 2018 meeting 45 46 Upon a motion by Cripps, supported by Hathcock, and unanimous vote, the agenda was approved as 47 presented.

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Scheduled Reviews

None.

Public Hearings: M-43 LLC – 1986 Sprinkle Road – Marijuana Provisioning Center – Special Use Permit

The first item set for public hearing was the request of Bruce Betzler, Emerald Mitten, LLC; and M-43, LLC for a special use permit and site plan approval to operate a medical marijuana provisioning center at 1986 Sprinkle Road within the Township (Parcel No. 06-24-285-180). The property is located in the C-2 "Commercial Corridor" District Zoning Classification. The rules for medical marijuana provisioning center special use approval are contained in Article 8, Section 8.05vv of the Kalamazoo Township Zoning Ordinance.

Hudson provided his review, indicating that the applicant wants to convert an existing building to a medical marijuana provisioning center. The site is 29,246 square feet and is a corner lot at Sprinkle Road and Wynn Road. The proposal will change the internal use of the building to: 2,647 square feet for the provisioning center; 944 square feet for a loading area; and 1,639 square feet for storage. The access driveway to Wynn Road will remain unchanged. There will be parking for thirteen vehicles on the existing pavement. The only site change is the removal of a carport with that area to be seeded in grass which will not affect the existing storm water system. The primary use of the property will be for the retail commercial sale of medical marijuana.

Hudson stated that the property to the west has recently been re-zoned to C-2 and is occupied by a vacant office and storage buildings. Properties further to the west are zoned I-2 General Industrial and are occupied by light industrial uses. The property across Wynn Road to the north is zoned C-2 and is occupied by an oil change shop. The properties across Sprinkle Road to the east in Comstock Township are zoned "M" Manufacturing and are occupied by a retail meat business and an excavating company with several industrial-type uses further to the east. The properties to the south across the I-94 business loop are zoned C-2 and are occupied by a retail store, a pizza shop and a donut shop.

Hudson indicated that Section 25.02 provides the schedule of regulations for site plan review. Hudson said the applicant's lot area is 29,246 square feet, which satisfies the minimum lot area requirement of 15,000 square feet. Hudson said the lot width is 214' along Sprinkle Road and 99' on Wynn Road, which satisfies the minimum lot width requirement of 100 feet. The existing building is one story, which is below the maximum height limitation. Hudson said the existing building is twenty-three feet high, which is below the maximum building height of thirty feet. Hudson's report further indicated that the front, side and rear setback requirements are satisfied. The maximum lot coverage is 60% and the existing building covers approximately 17.9% of the lot. Hudson indicated that Article 4.00 – Off Street Parking requires one space per 200 square feet of usable floor space. Eight parking spaces will be required because the applicant's site plan indicates the usable floor area for the building is 1,544 square feet. The applicant's site plan shows parking for thirteen vehicles. Hudson indicated that grading and surface drainage is reviewed by the Planning Commission and the Township Engineer or building office. Hudson noted the only change to the existing building is the removal of a carport and replacing it with grass seed, which should result in slightly less storm water runoff from the site.

Hudson said the applicant needs to satisfy the landscaping requirements of Article 5.02 B. Hudson indicated more shade trees, ornamental trees and shrubs will need to be added on the site plan.

Hudson said no lighting fixture details were given and a lighting photometric plan was not included in the site plan. Hudson said no additional screens are proposed for the site and noted a 120' gap in the rear fence and that no gate is shown at the driveway. Hudson said the site plan depicts one sign, but provides no details of the sign. Hudson said sidewalks have not been provided on either Sprinkle Road or Wynn Road.

Hudson said Article 8, Section 8.02VV contains the special use standards. Hudson indicated the standards for site plan approval are contained in Section 26.02F of the Township Zoning Ordinance.

Bruce Betzler, the applicant, addressed the Commission. Betzler asked the Commission if they had any questions. Members of the Planning Commission had no questions for Betzler. John Lovely, the architect hired by Betzler, addressed the Commission. Lovely said concerns regarding odor control, a waste management plan and security plan have been addressed. Lovely said there are no parking lot lights, but noted decorative lighting may be added in the future. Lovely said a photometric plan will be submitted if required. Lovely said the current location of the existing sign is in compliance with the Township Ordinance and a sign permit will be obtained at the appropriate time. Lovely said a landscaping diagram will be submitted that satisfies the Township Ordinance requirements. Lovely noted that four additional parking spaces were added to the plan for a total of seventeen spaces. Lovely said the applicant is still working to obtain insurance. Lovely explained the buffer distances from local schools and residential districts using a GIS mapping diagram.

Chapman asked if the site was handicap accessible. Lovely said yes. Cripps disagreed with Lovely's measurement of the applicant's sign.

Nagler opened a public hearing. There were no public comments in support of the applicant. Nagler asked if there were any public comments objecting to the applicant's request for special use approval of a medical marihuana provisioning center. Chris Mihelich said the site is less than 250 feet from the Comstock Charter Township municipal border. Lovely agreed that the site is located less than 250 feet from the municipal border, but noted an exception to the Township Ordinance's buffer requirement if the bordering district is a similar use. Jason Blaauw asked if the site is non-conforming and whether the applicant needs to meet setback requirements. Nagler said the applicant does not necessarily have to satisfy the setback requirements and noted the lot is lawful non-conforming. Nagler closed the public hearing because there were no additional public comments and the Commission entered deliberations.

Dingemans noted the Comstock Charter Township municipal border is not residential. Cripps asked Hudson if he counted the number of shrubs on the site plan. Hudson reviewed the site plan and confirmed the landscaping plan. Hartsough asked whether there are sidewalks in the area. Nagler said there is limited access and did not think there were sidewalks installed at the site location. Hitt agreed, noting that sidewalks would not serve a purpose in that area. Hitt asked for clarification regarding medical marijuana facilities located less than 250' from a municipal boundary line. Hudson read the Ordinance and noted an exception to the 250' boundary requirement is triggered if the area in the neighboring municipality is zoned to a similar use. Seeber said Comstock is zoned "M" in that location. Hitt asked what uses are in the Comstock "M" District Zoning Classification. Seeber researched Comstock's "M" District and read the permitted uses to the Commission. The Commission was satisfied that the "M" District was a similarly zoned district to the Township's C-2 District Zoning Classification. Cripps said the applicant's sign intrudes into the property line. Cripps noted that the signs on the West Main hill area are more visually appealing. Cripps said there is not much room to install a sign that complies with the setback requirements. Cripps and Nagler discussed the placement of a sign and

whether a monument sign would be appropriate. Hathcock asked if replacing the sign's face is appropriate. Cripps said there is some flexibility because this is a special exception use request. Hitt said this is an opportunity to make the sign look better. Dingemans and Hartsough agreed. The applicant said he intends to install a professionally-designed sign. Hitt asked if the vacant portion of the building may be rented out. Hudson said there will need to be a Knox-box installed where there are two or more uses of a building. Hitt asked if a firewall will need to be installed. Seeber said yes. Nagler asked where the dumpster will be located. Lovely said the dumpster will be located inside the building loading area for security purposes. Nagler said the catch basin is in the driveway and is full of dirt. Nagler said he wants the catch basin cleaned out and operable. Cripps said he wants to make sure the sign becomes conforming, noting that the Zoning Ordinance eliminates the non-conforming for an abandoned sign.

Upon a <u>motion</u> by Hathcock, <u>supported</u> by Hartsough and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the Commission approved the applicant's request for a special exception use for a medical marihuana provisioning center at 1986 Sprinkle Road.

The Commission next reviewed the applicant's site plan. Cripps said most of the site plan review and discussion was done during the request for the special exception use approval review.

Upon a <u>motion</u> by Cripps, <u>supported</u> by Hathcock and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the Commission approved the applicant's site plan for a medical marihuana provisioning center at 1986 Sprinkle Road <u>with the</u> following conditions:

- 1. A photometric plan is submitted and approved,
- 2. The storm-catch basin is cleaned and functional,
- 3. Verification that the sign is conforming or made to conform, and
- 4. The Fire Marshal Knox-box concerns are addressed.

New Business

Integrity Enterprises (gun part manufacturer) – additional use site plan

The first item of new business was the request of Integrity Enterprises to use part of an existing vehicle repair shop for a small manufacturing use at 2222 Lake Street (Parcel Identification No. 06-23-440-070 & 06-23-440-100). Hudson reviewed his report. The primary use of the property has been a lawful pre-existing non-conforming vehicle repair shop. The property is located in the Township I-2 District Zoning Classification, as are the properties to the west and south. The existing uses are industrial. The property across Healy Street to the east is vacant and zoned C-1 – Local Commercial. The properties across Lake Street to the north are zoned I-1 – Light Industrial and are occupied by industrial uses. The applicant wishes to use an 80 square-foot area of the existing building for a machine shop. The applicant's proposal will not add any new area to the existing building.

Hudson indicated the property has a total area of 12,740 square feet with 51.4' of frontage on Lake Street, and 161.76' of frontage on Healy Street. The site has an existing 24' x 69' (1,656 square feet) building with 8' x 24' canopy and 10 parking spaces. Hudson said the standards for site plan approval are contained in Section 26.02F of the Township Zoning Ordinance.

The applicant, Steve Westveer, addressed the Commission and said he wants to use an 80 square-foot area of the existing work area for a machine shop. The applicant said he is not changing the building in any way. Cripps asked if the ownership of both parcels was the same. The applicant said no. The applicant said he will be running the machine shop, but is not the owner. The applicant said he hopes to be operational within a month or two. Chapman asked if there are separate tax identification numbers

for each parcel. Seeber asked if the Township Zoning Ordinance included a merger provision. Hudson said the Ordinance allows for a merger, but it is not required. Hartsough said the landscaping needs to be addressed. Cripps said sidewalks also need to be addressed. Nagler noted that the dumpster is depicted on the revised plan. Nagler and Hitt discussed sidewalks and agreed sidewalks would not be required at the site.

Upon a <u>motion</u> by Hartsough, <u>supported</u> by Cripps, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the Commission approved the applicant's request for the addition of a small machine shop to the site plan at 2222 Lake Street <u>with the</u> following conditions:

 1. The addition of sixteen (16) shrubs, and the recommendation that the two parcels be combined through the Township Assessor's Office.

Aldi's Food Market – expansion site plan review – 3720 Gull Road

The second item under new business was the consideration of Aldi Food Market's request for an expansion of its site plan. Hudson indicated that the proposed construction site is addressed as 3720 Gull Road within the Township (Tax Identification NO. 06-12-230-015). Hudson's report indicated that the subject property is approximately 3.2 acres in size and is located in the C-1 Local Commercial District Zoning Classification. Hudson said the proposed site plan seeks approval to construct a 3,287 square foot commercial building addition for retail business. Section 25.02 of the Township Zoning Ordinance requires a minimum lot area of 10,890 square feet, a minimum lot width of 70 feet, and a maximum height of 30 feet/two stories. Hudson's report included the required setback requirements in the C-1 District. Hudson indicated that the property to the east is zoned C-1 and is occupied by a bank. The property to the west is also zoned C-1 and is occupied by a gas station. The property to the south is zoned C-2 and is vacant. Hudson indicated that the properties across Gull Road to the north are zoned R-2 and R-1 and are occupied by single family dwellings.

Hudson said the plan is to construct a 3,287 square-foot addition to an existing 14,860 square foot commercial building on the property, yielding a total of 18,147 square feet. Hudson indicted that the Ordinance requires 61 parking spaces and 95 spaces are shown on the site plan, which is 155% of the required spaces. Hudson said Section 4.01 requires the applicant to demonstrate to the Commission the justification for the additional parking spaces. Hudson discussed the landscaping requirements for adjacent roads and landscaping requirements for the parking lot. Hudson indicated the applicant submitted a lighting photometric plan for review. Hudson discussed the site plan standards of approval. Hudson said that the landscaping is non-conforming and more landscaping will be needed to bring the property closer into compliance. Hudson said the storm water calculation was previously approved and discharge will not change. Hudson's report indicated that a soil erosion and sediment control plan is included in the applicant's materials.

David Kapunsansky, the Director of Real Estate for Aldi's Food Market addressed the Commission. Kapunsansky discussed the site plan and the materials for construction to the Commission. Kapunsansky said the sidewalks around the building will be replaced and there is space for the required landscaping. Kapunsansky said the store is expanding to bring in fresh products. Cripps confirmed that Aldi's will tear out the existing sidewalks, complete their expansion, and replace the sidewalks. Don Martin asked whether the driveway on the backside of the building is a right-of-way. Kapunsansky said no and said Aldi's owns that strip. Cripps asked if Aldi's previously obtained a variance for a setback. Kapunsansky was not sure. Cripps expressed concern regarding the fire department connection that is placed by the handicap parking spaces. Cripps asked if four handicap parking spaces are sufficient. Hudson reviewed the Ordinance to make a determination. Cripps asked if Aldi's is replacing the entire parking lot.

Kapunsansky said yes and mentioned that Aldi's will be closed for five weeks during this expansion. Kapunsansky said Aldi's will work with the Township Fire Marshal regarding the fire department connection concerns. Nagler said Aldi's site plan is very complete. Cripps said he wants sidewalks installed along the Nazareth Road drive aisle and encouraged the applicant to add sidewalks in that location. Hartsough agreed and said it would create safe conditions. Seeber asked if the sidewalk may be asphalt, noting that it may be more cost effective. The Commission agreed that Aldi's 155% increase of the required spaces is appropriate given the nature of its business.

Upon a <u>motion</u> by Hathcock, <u>supported</u> by Hitt, and <u>unanimous vote</u>, the Commission approved the applicant's request for site plan expansion at 3720 Gull Road with the following conditions:

- 1. The addition of landscaping that satisfies the Township Ordinance's requirements,
- 2. Fire Marshal approval of the site plan expansion, and
- 3. The addition of sidewalks along Nazareth Road between the existing sidewalk and the driveway.

Request from Fire Marshal for site plan review amendment

The third item under New Business was to review the request from the Fire Marshal for a site plan review amendment. Seeber addressed the Commission and said the request for the text amendments was to add a provision defining the width of the fire lane. Seeber said she spoke to the Fire Marshal regarding this issue and is preparing a non-zoning ordinance for what the Fire Marshal wants in site plan reviews. Hudson directed the Commission to Section 4-9 of the Township Zoning Ordinance. Hudson discussed the issues with the fire truck and access to points adjacent to buildings. The Planning Commission approved the text amendment but felt that it should wait until additional changes to the ordinance are made.

Discussion of the meaning of "retail" in the RM-2 District

The fourth item under New Business was to discuss the meaning of "retail" in the RM-2 District. This request was made by Steve Leuty. Nagler asked whether a liquor store belongs within the meaning of "retail." Seeber said this was discussed at a Township Board Meeting and the Township may need a text amendment to define "liquor store." Seeber said the Commission should consider whether it wants these types of stores in the RM-2 District Zoning Classification. Seeber said a text amendment will be needed if the Commission decides that it does not want liquor stores in the RM-2 District.

Hartsough said she was surprised liquor stores were not addressed in the Ordinance. Hudson noted that gas stations sell liquor. Seeber indicated that the Board was concerned because the RM-2 District has a residential component to it. Hathcock asked if a liquor store may be made a special use within the RM-2 District. Seeber said yes, but it needs to be addressed in the Township Zoning Ordinance. Nagler asked if the Commission needed to make a decision tonight. Seeber said no and advised that the Commission should determine what the level of tolerance is for liquor stores in the RM-2 Residential District Zoning Classification. Hudson said the Commission should decide whether it wants to include tobacco sales and Hookah lounges as a special exception use in the RM-2 District as well.

By-laws of Planning Commission – Amendments

The fifth item under New Business was to review and discuss the proposed amendments to the Planning Commission's by-laws. Copies of the proposed amendments were provided to the Commission members

in their packets. Seeber discussed the comprehensive escrow fee policy and recommended eliminating certain provisions. Cripps recommended eliminating 7b because it is redundant. Hartsough asked if it was possible to impose time constraints for public comments. Seeber said the Township Board Policy Manual addresses time constraints for Township Board public comment. Hartsough said it is important to set an expectation for the public. Seeber said the Commission may leave it within the discretion of the Chairperson. Seeber said Hudson will make proposed changes to the by-laws and the Commission may adopt the same at the next meeting.

Open Discussion

Members of the Audience

Christopher Mihelich handed out a spreadsheet of active liquor licenses in Kalamazoo Township to the Commission members.

Adam Schwallier said he originally submitted his site plan for a medical marihuana facility and adjusted the plans to avoid going to the ZBA. Schwallier said he is addressing the easement issue on his property with Consumer's Energy. Schwallier provided an update of his site plan statement and discussed the progress and issues he was having before submitting revised plans to the Commission for review. Cripps noted that McCormick Street is 22' wide, but 26' is needed in order to accommodate a fire truck. Schwallier said this is being addressed and mentioned he is installing gravel to accommodate access for the fire trucks.

Andy Brown said he owns 17 acres of land and wants to build a pole barn on his property. The Commission discussed the special use parameters with Brown. The Commission also discussed the parameters of a home based occupation. Brown expressed concern over the current language of the Ordinance because it limits an accessory building to less than 800 square feet. Brown said he has the space to build a larger pole barn and suggested the Commission consider a text amendment to the Ordinance.

Manjinder Benipal addressed the Commission regarding the sign that is mounted on his business. Benipal said he wants a second sign to advertise the sale of liquor, beer and wine at his store. The Commission researched the Township Sign Ordinance and discussed the same with Benipal. The Commission attempted to determine what type of sign Benipal already had on his property and whether he qualified for a second wall sign and/or freestanding sign based on a multi-tenant use and/or based on whether there are two separate entrances/corner lot. Benipal wanted to expand his existing sign to add the "beer, wine, liquor" onto it. Nagler noted that any changes to an existing sign that exceeds the allowable parameters set by the Ordinance must go to the ZBA for variance approval.

Correspondence Received

The Planning Commission is invited to attend a Township Board meeting on Monday, May 14, 2018, for a presentation by Southwest Michigan First on economic development and on climate change. Hudson said Oshtemo Township adopted its updated master plan. Hudson said the City of Kalamazoo's master plan is up for adoption tonight as well.

Old Business

Master Plan

Hudson said he will e-mail the current master plan to the Commission. Hudson noted the population of Kalamazoo Township has not changed much in recent years. Hudson showed future land use maps to the Commission and noted some inconsistences. Mitchell asked whether the master plan has been updated. Seeber said the master plan should be updated every five years. Hudson said there were no changes to the map in the 2014 amendment. Hartsough asked Hudson to e-mail the Commission the steps for updating the master plan. Hudson agreed.

Zoning Ordinance text amendments: Parking Commercial Vehicles

The next item on the agenda was to continue the discussion of proposed text amendments for the parking of commercial vehicles in residential districts. Hudson said he made all the requested changes and submitted copies of the reviewed proposed text amendments to the Commission in their packets. Hathcock said the five-acre requirement in order to park a commercial vehicle is excessive. Dingemans said some of the proposed language is overly broad. Dingemans said he objects to allowing certain vehicles to be parked in Residential Districts. The Commission continued to discuss the proposed text amendments. Hathcock pointed to the possible vehicle height limitation. Hathcock said if someone owns a home business, she/he should be able to park their vehicle if all requirements are met. Cripps directed the Commission to the proposed text amendment "1F" and asked to strike the "plow" language from the amendment. Cripps also said he did not like the proposed language in several other subsections within Section 1F of the proposed text amendments. The Commission tabled the text amendments for the parking of commercial vehicles until next month's meeting.

Report of the Township Board Representative

Hathcock thanked the Commission for its hard work.

Report of the Township ZBA Representative

Nagler said the ZBA held one meeting since the last Planning Commission meeting and the applicant's request was denied.

Comments from the Planning Commission Members

Hitt said he would not be present at the next Planning Commission meeting.

Report of the Planner/Zoning Administrator

l None.

Report of the Township Attorney

45 None.

Adjournment

2	the meeting at 10:03 p.m.	
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5		Henry Dingemans, Secretary
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8	SNYOPSIS OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING	
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LO	The Kalamazoo Township Planning Commissions made the following decisions at it	
L1	meeting of May 3, 2018:	
L2		
L3	1.	Approved special use and site plan for medical marijuana provisioning center at
L4	1986 Sprink	le Road.
L5		
L6	2.	Approved expansion to Aldi's at 3720 Gull Road.
L7		
L8	3.	Fire Marshal's recommendation for accepted addition of the 26-foot wide fire
L9	lane width to Township Zoning Ordinance.	
20	_	
21	4.	Approved additional use for small machine shop at 2222 Lake Street.
22	_	
23	5.	Considered amendments to bylaws.