

**Flowerfield Township  
St. Joseph County  
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**

**March 16, 2017**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:43 P.M. PC members presents: Marty Eldred, Greg Hamelink, Ron Shaver, Richard Rice, Neil Farrell. Joe Woodin was absent. Flowerfield Township Zoning Administrator Doug Kuhlman was in attendance.

**Board Member Additions to Agenda**

Add Township Website Discussion to New Business

**Approval of Agenda**

Marty made a motion to approve the March 16, 2017 agenda, Neil seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Board Member Comments**

Doug commented that the Master Planner training was cancelled due to lack of participation. We will look at future dates to send Richard and Neil to.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ron made a motion to approve the February 16, 2017 meeting minutes, Neil seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Public Comments & Requests for Applications and/or Special Exceptions**

None

**Correspondence**

Marty had a copy of the Flowerfield Township Planning Commission Bylaws from 8/14/2008. Greg will distribute copies of these Bylaws to the rest of the PC for reference/review.

**Old Business**

Doug provided a draft resolution regarding medical marihuana. Currently Mottville, Park, Marcellus, Lockport, and White Pigeon townships are using this resolution to state their position on the topic. The PC decided to hold on this resolution until the issue becomes clearer and the township can respond with an appropriate ordinance.

Doug provided the PC with a letter stating his position regarding our proposed verbiage in our draft zoning ordinance regarding special exception use of accessory buildings. Doug feels this will be a policing issue and provided a recommendation that Flowerfield Township should not allow for accessory buildings without a principal dwelling unless it meets criteria of an agricultural building. The PC respectfully accepted this recommendation but still feels there is valid reasoning for including this verbiage in the draft ordinance for approval by the township board.

**New Business**

**Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance April 20, 2017**

The PC decided there was not enough time to prepare for a public hearing on April 20, 2017 and made the decision to delay the public hearing one month to May 18, 2017. Doug will work on a notice to publish in the local newspapers.

Ron discussed the new township website and what content/information should be posted to this site for township residents to view. Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance should be posted to the new website. Greg will work on a document/Powerpoint that highlights the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance for the May 18, 2017 public hearing.

**Adjournment:**

Ron made a motion to adjourn, Rich seconded the motion and the meeting ended at 8:40 P.M.

**Next Meeting: April 20, 2017**