

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF GRAND BLANC
REGULAR PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Grand Blanc Township Government Center
5371 S. Saginaw Street, P. O. Box 1833, Grand Blanc, MI 48480-0057
Held at 7:00 p.m. on January 5, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Dan Gellings with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Jay Hoffman, Vince Bandurski, Dan Gellings, Ryan Thompson, Joe Johnson, Ron Goldie

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Cyphert, Dolores Coulter, Ed Brown

STAFF PRESENT:

Planner Michael Deem, Attorney David Lattie, Birchler Arroyo Planning Consultants, Rod Arroyo and Jill Bahm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Verlyn Gank, 4421 Baldwin Road, wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked them for their service.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Bandurski, supported by Mr. Johnson, to approve the Minutes of December 1, 2011. Motion carried 6 - 0.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion by Mr. Johnson, supported by Mr. Hoffman, to amend the Agenda to add Planner Report at the end of the agenda. Motion carried 6 - 0.

CORRESPONDENCE: Planning & Zoning News
 Complete Streets
 Market Study for Safaro Rezoning Case

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Complete Streets Presentation

Mr. Victor Lukasavitz, Fleis & VanderBrink Engineering Inc., presented Complete Streets on behalf of SAGE (Safe and Active Genesee for Everyone). Complete Streets are roadways designed or redesigned for users for transportation including automobiles, pedestrians, bicyclists and mass transit. Mr. Lukasavitz stated there are cost effective ways to restripe streets without the need of restructuring or repaving streets to make them safer for travelers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

He stated having Complete Streets for travelers, pedestrians, stroller walkers, and bicyclists can improve health in a community, homes sell faster and the communities become more sustainable.

Ms. Lauren Hoily, Active Living Community Director for the Crim Fitness Foundation and SAGE, explained the benefits of Complete Streets for the Community. She stated Complete Streets will increase the willingness to bike or walk to work, school or for leisure. She stated the organization is trying to create a healthy Genesee County that provides safe and inviting public spaces where people can integrate physical activity into their daily routine.

Mr. Lukasavitz is requesting the Planning Commission make a recommendation for a resolution to the Township Board.

B. Sustainability – Continued Discussion – Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.

Ms. Jill Bahm of Birchler Arroyo Inc. reviewed the sustainability audit, identifying topics that the Planning Commission may want to review in the zoning ordinance. She stated moving forward, it may be appropriate to consider adding several elements that will strengthen and encourage sustainability through the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission may wish to discuss which of the elements are worth pursuing.

Ms. Bahm also discussed Complete Streets and Transportation Networks. She echoed Mr. Lukasavitz's thoughts and stated the township should establish a policy for developing a transportation network that is sufficient for all users and utilize the zoning ordinance to ensure connectivity between land uses, including residential areas, schools, commercial, civic, and industrial uses for non-motorized transportation.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Planner Report:

Mr. Rod Arroyo of Birchler Arroyo Inc. passed out a pamphlet to the Planning Commissioners regarding the Transportation Bonanza Conference on February 16, 2012, regarding Healthy Mobile and Livable Communities.

Mr. Arroyo requests adding "Planners Report" as an agenda item.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Johnson, supported by Mr. Hoffman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Motion carried 6-0.

Clerk Cathy Lane

By: Maria Maclean, January 16, 2012

Board Approval: February 2, 2012
