

Calhoun County Planning Commission
Minutes
March 28, 2016

Present: Comrs. Sarah Kelly, Tracy Bronson, Blaine VanSickle and Dan Kesselring. Staff: Planning Consultant Jennifer Bomba and Community Development Support Staff Pat Dadow.

Excused: Linda Freybler, Angie Kline, Terence Lunger, and Kelli Scott on phone call

1. The March 28, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.
2. Roll was called by the Community Development Support Staff Pat Dadow.
3. Election of Officers

(a) Chair

“Moved by Bronson to nominate VanSickle, supported by Kesselring, for a one year term as Chair of the Planning Commission for 2016.”

On a voice vote, Nomination CARRIED.

(b) Vice Chair

“Moved by Bronson to nominate Lunger, supported by Kelly, for a one year term as Vice Chair of the Planning Commission for 2016.”

“Moved by Bronson, second by Kelly to vote unanimous and close nomination of Vice Chair.”

On a voice vote, Nomination CARRIED.

(c) Secretary

“Moved by Kesselring to nominate Bronson, supported by Kelly, for a one year term as Secretary of the Planning Commission for 2016.”

“Moved by Kesselring, second by Kelly to vote unanimous and close nomination of Secretary.”

On a voice vote, Nomination CARRIED.

4. Approval of Agenda

“Moved by Bronson, supported by Kesselring to approve the March 28, 2016 Calhoun County Planning Commission agenda as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

5. Public Comments

There were none.

6. Approval of November 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes

“Moved by Kelly, second by Kesselring to approve the November 23, 2015 Calhoun County Planning Commission minutes as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

7. Communication

(a) City of Battle Creek-Community Services, Notice of Intent to Prepare a Master Plan Update, March 11, 2016

Official notice presented by Planning Consultant Bomba from City of Battle Creek of intent to prepare a Master Plan Update. Bomba stated the City of Battle Creek will be sending a draft for review and comment to the County Planning Commission.

8. Old Business

There was none.

9. New Business

(a) Membership Applications

Planning Consultant Bomba reported that the Community Development Department reached out to local Townships seeking to fill vacancies for the County Planning Commission. She pointed out there are three openings on the Planning Commission. They are Citizen at Large, Government Municipal Interest and Economic Development Interest.

Bomba stated she received two applications for the Planning Commission vacancies, one from Tammi Damerow to fill the Government Municipal Interest and another from Dan Livingston to fill the Citizen at Large. The applications were discussed by the Planning Commission.

“Moved Bronson, supported by Kelly to recommend to the County Board of Commissioners the appointment of Dan Livingston and Tammi Damerow to the County Planning Commission.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

10. Township Planning and Zoning Coordination

(a) 3-16-01, Convis Township: PA 116 Application for Jerry Messenger

Staff recommended for approval.

“Moved Kesselring, second by Bronson to approve 3-16-01, Convis Township: PA 116 Application for Jerry Messenger as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

(b) 3-16-02, Marengo Township: PA 116 Application for Larry & Melanie Huepenbecker

Staff recommended for approval.

“Moved Kesselring, second by Kelly to approve 3-16-02, Marengo Township: PA 116 Application for Larry and Melanie Huepenbecker as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

(c) Planning Consultant Bomba handed out Farmland and Open Space brochures of the PA 116 program from the State’s website for Commission members to review for their information.

11. Department Report

A Green Streets video was shared by Community Development Educator Ault showing possible new projects for more urban Townships.

Planning Consultant Bomba handed out Community Development Department brochures which the Department had presented to the Townships in their latest visits. She mentioned the Townships were welcoming and that they plan on attending Township Planning meetings at least once a year.

12. Member Comments

VanSickle questioned how to speed up legislation for monies for the PA 116. Planning Consultant Bomba commented that she would look into this and get back to VanSickle.

VanSickle stated that Albion College is looking to upgrade their athletic field. He discussed the Water Resources Commissioner helped them save thousands of dollars by working together with the College.

Scott explained the Regional Planning Council met and Calhoun County has two vacant representative seats.

13. Public Comments

There were none.

14. Announcements: The next Calhoun County Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

15. Adjournment: 4:52 pm.