

**VILLAGE OF NORTHPORT
PLANNING COMMISSION
116 W. Nagonaba St.
Tuesday November 19, 2019
DRAFT MINUTES**

Call to Order, Roll Call

Chair Tyrrell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Collins, Verdon, Tyrrell, Frerichs, Gale, McCann. Absent: Heitler

Public Present

Laura and Thomas Cavendish, Mike Stoffel and Will Harper

Staff Present

Cindy Edmondson recording secretary

Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as drafted.

Approval of Minutes

October minutes were approved as written.

Correspondence

Email from William Fuller to Steve Wetherbee concerning submittals from Lord and Lady Construction on Waukazoo property. Copy attached.

Email from Jane Gale regarding memorandum from the village attorney, Ross Hammersley referencing the sign ordinance. Copy attached.

Public Comments

Laura Cavendish reported that she has received both the MDOT permit and the soil erosion permit this week for the Around the Corner Food Truck property on Waukazoo.

Bill Collins inquired what the parking spot count was after the curb cut.

Laura responded the curb cut took out 3 public street spaces to get 4 spaces on the property.

Jane Gale reported she had received a letter from Anne Harper requesting consideration of sidewalks along Mill St. from 6th street to 8th street. Request will be forwarded to infrastructure committee.

Zoning Administrator's Report

Copy of the report attached.

Village Council Representative's Report

Copy of the report attached.

Infrastructure Committee Meeting Report

Copy of D. Tyrrell's special meeting report attached.

Parks and Trails Committee

No report.

Commissioner McCann reported the golf season has wrapped up. Over \$10,000 has been collected and distributed to Share Care and NP Promise. His goal for 2020 is to better promote golf course as a public asset. Possibilities include green space in off season, parks and rec projects and winter activities like snow shoeing and cross country skiing.

Marijuana Dispensary Zoning Draft

Articles for consideration were provided by Commissioner Tyrrell. Discussion ensued with request for copies of Ordinance 124 and 125 to be provided to Commissioners boxes by Recording Secretary to help with clarification of parameters of ordinances.

Re-review of Zoning Ordinance Articles 18

Article 18 was re-reviewed. Zoning Administrator Fuller will review architectural standards.

2020 Calendar of Meetings

Calendar was accepted as presented. Chair Tyrrell requested publication of calendar when other calendars are sent to press.

Public Comment

Will Harper from Mill St commented that Grand Rapids zoning is not comparable to Northport and should not be used as a model. He stated that articles 2-6 of the Grand Rapids zoning ordinance were not looked at objectively by the Planning Commission. He questioned the Planning Commission's intent by even considering these very limiting parameters. He feels that the Planning Commission's job is to take the Village Council's direction only. He further suggested that there was no real need for a zoning ordinance to be written. He feels that if the zoning ordinance makes it so restrictive there will be no place in Northport that meets the criteria. He added if the Planning Commission adopts anything more restrictive than the State's K-12 restriction, the Council will overturn it.

Doreen Tyrrell responded it was their first attempt and they don't even have a draft yet. They were using Grand Rapids as a template only to start the process and she resented his criticism.

Mike Stoffel from Mill St reported there are new petitions to bring the marijuana establishment question to the voters currently being circulated.

Laura Cavendish questioned the calendar conflict between the Planning Commission and NLTUA meeting.

Commissioner Verdon commented that the Planning Commission meeting dates were established long before the NLTUA meeting date.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner McCann commented that he considers his appointment to the Planning Commission as relevant/useful. Council and Commission members hear from different groups of citizens both for and against marijuana facilities. He feels his job is to deal with what comes before the Planning Commission and as it happens it is marijuana establishment zoning. A marijuana facility is something some people of the Village want.

Bill Collins reports he will be attending the Timber Shores meeting next Thursday. He is concerned about what the effect a project of this scope will mean for Northport parking issues in the future.

Adjournment

Chair Tyrrell requested a motion for adjournment at 8:25 p.m. Commissioner Verdon so moved, Commissioner McCann seconded.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 17, 2019

Cindy Edmondson, Recording Secretary