

**Ontwa Township Planning Commission  
Cass County Michigan**

Wednesday, December 2, 2020  
7:00 PM

VIA ZOOM  
# 814-8943-2333

**Members on Zoom:** Chris Marbach – Chairman, Sandra Seanor-Secretary, Mike Mroczek, William Mahaney, Don Delong, Richard Gates, Robert Thompson, and Dawn Bolock.

Members Absent: Shane Szalai

**Minutes Recorded By:** Brigid Forlenza

Chair Marbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Agenda Approved** Motion made by Mike Mroczek seconded by Sandra Seanor. All in favor, motion passes.
3. **Reading and approval of past minutes:** November 4, 2020; Motion made by Dawn Bolock to approve minutes seconded by Richard Gates. All in favor - motion passes.
4. **Land Divisions: None**
5. **New Business: None**
6. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Parks and Recreation Plan-** Whitney Newberry and Andy Moore of Williams and Works presented updated draft of Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2021-2025.

Mike Mroczek asked Andy Moore to review the process: The plan is updated every five years. It is necessary to update in order to seek grants. The plan sets direction for funding and projects. The Plan is submitted to the DNR for approval by February 1, 2021 and must meet their (DNR) guidelines. The chapter titles follow DNR guidelines and plan follows DNR guidelines. Prior to DNR deadline the Ontwa Township Board of Trustees holds a public meeting. The meeting is published. The plan is approved by resolution of the Planning Commission and the Board of Trustees.

Whitney Newberry reviewed draft plan for Planning Commission. Sandra Seanor requested they add MACOG. Chair Chris Marbach commented it is a well-done report.

**7. Committee Reports:**

**a. Zoning Ordinance Review Committee** – Sandra Seanor explained the Ad-Hoc committee purpose is to research and review zoning ordinances. The committee is comprised of the following: Jeff Brown – Zoning Board of Appeals, Chris Marbach – Planning Commission, Dawn Bolock – Board of Trustees and Planning Commission, and Sandra Seanor – Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission.

1. 35% impervious surface implementation – to be consistent
2. Living quarters above garages
3. Storage of Boats – Commercial portion
4. Building Compliance permits
5. Occupancy compliance permits
6. VRBO – short term corporate rentals  
(Sandra Seanor will be contacting Any Moore – Williams and Works for information.)

**8. Public Comments:**

- a. Dale Snow addressed the Parks & Recreation Plan.
1. Public Access to the lake north and south of the weir.
  2. North of weir has deed to water.
  3. South of the weir is Cass County Road Commission.
  4. Requests general verbiage to include entire waterfront along Eagle Lake Road.
  5. Page 24 there is no beach at the dock property.

Chair Marbach thanked him for his input and related he has another chance to speak at the Board of Trustees Public Hearing.

Don Delong spoke regarding trails and pathways adding an action plan is needed for bike trails.

James Solarek has questions regarding short term rentals and requested to attend Ad-hoc meeting. Chair Marbach responded no, as it is a research group that brings information to the Planning Commission.

Chair Marbach asked Zoning Administrator the status of the Fieldhouse project. Zoning Administrator replied he has not currently reviewed.

9. Announcements: None

10. Adjournment: Hearing no further comments Chair Marbach adjourned meeting at 8:22PM. All in favor – motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted:

Brigid Forlenza  
Recording Secretary

