TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

ANTRIM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Torch Lake Township

Planning Commission Meeting

Community Service Building

APPROVED Minutes AS PREPARED 5-0

August 8, 2017

**Present:**    Kulka, Graber, Bretz, Goossen, Shoemaker, W. Petersen, Jorgensen

**Absent:**

**Others:**    Grobbel, Martel

**Audience:**    Killian

**Recording Secretary:** J. Petersen

**1.**    **Call to Order Regular Meeting:**

    Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm by Kulka

**2.    Public Commentary:**

Kulka asked for public comment and none was offered at this time

**3.    Consideration of Agenda:**

    Motion by Shoemaker to approve 8.8.17 agenda, seconded by Goossen; passed 7-0.

**4.**    **Approval of Minutes of July 11, 2017 Meeting:**

Motion by Goossen to approve 7/11/17 meeting minutes; seconded by W. Petersen, Passed 7-0

**5.    On Going Reports**

**5A     Zoning Administrator Report**

Zoning Administrator Vey has resigned effective midnight 8.8.17.  No reassignment has occurred and will be topic of discussion at the upcoming TLT Regular Board Meeting 8.15.17.  Martel will handle permits in the meantime.

**5B     Representative on ZBA Report**

No ZBA meetings have occurred since the last PC Meeting/ Report.

**5C     TLT Board Representative on PC Report**

Petersen reported that Proposal “P’ is now in effect

**6.    Correspondence, Meetings, Training, Announcements, etc.:**

8.16.17 MMA and Short-term rental trainings/ meetings are being offered by the township, Kulka, Graber, W. Petersen and Jorgensen will attend.

Martel announced the DNR Open House “Round Table” discussion about the Torch Lake Access north or McLaughlin Road will be 8/17/17 5-8pm at the TL Township Building.

    Upcoming meetings also include 8/23/17 6pm and 9/9/17 9am community meeting to solicit ideas for the Zoning Ordinance Master Plan.

**7.      Unfinished Business**

**7A    Medical Marijuana Text Amendment**

Public Hearing was held and the proposed text amendment will go to the county to be added to the Zoning Ordinance (see public hearing minutes from 8.8.17)

**7B    Fence Zoning**

Zoning Ordinances in surrounding counties was presented to the group for review via information provided by Grobbel in a spreadsheet for to compare and contrast what trends, if any exist in other townships handling of fences.  Many similarities and differences were discussed as well as special conditions, existing fences, waterfront properties, commercial properties etc.…. Goossen asked if there were any current “hot” issues regarding fencing and Martel stated that currently there were not, and that this was a proactive discussion to avoid future issues.  Grobbel asked the group to review the date he provided and compile a list of things they would like to see in our ordinance and a list of things they do not.  He asked the group to consider issues like; height restrictions, opacity, materials, placement and maintenance.  Grobbel asked that members consider what the “goal” is and what we want to “fix”.  Once Grobbel has received the lists of key issues, an ordinance can be drafted.

**7C Master Plan Update-Chris Grobbel**

1. Public notices about the survey and public input meetings went into the Record Eagle and Antrim News and Radio stations.
2. Survey is going with a live link on the website.  Please encourage neighbors and friends to participate.

**8.  New Business-** None

**9.  Concerns of the Planning Commission**

Graber to update bylaws with new agenda format

**10.  Public Commentary**

Janet Killian of 4741 and 4746 East Torch Lake Drive made comments thanking the Planning Commission for their service.  Her Comments also included that she was not in support of fences.  The safety issues presented, as well as view blocking and maintenance were her main concerns voiced.

    Bretz asked for assistance in the tractor trailers and other junk appearing on Pearl Rd in East Port.  Martel will look into the Blight Ordinance

**11 Adjournment - 8:14PM** With no further business, a motion for adjournment was made by Graber to adjourn.  Motion was seconded by Petersen and carried 7-0.