

**Lake Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2023**

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 6:30 pm at Lake Township Hall (5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor MI).

J. Rothhaar called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Members Present;

John Rothhaar Mark Janeczko Carl Lightfoot Kyle Orr
 Jackie Randall

Others Present; Jeff Johnson- Township Supervisor, Anna Grobe- Township Clerk, and others (sign in sheet on file).

Public Input on Agenda; Previous Meeting Minutes date was corrected.

Meeting Minutes; Minutes from the Meeting on January 19, 2023 were approved as presented.

Correspondence; Email (on file) sent to members of Township Board, Planning Commission and all who requested updates on the Plan via email.

Introduction of New Township Supervisor; Jeff Johnson was appointed by the Lake Township Board. He has been a Benzie County resident and property owner for a long time, and he brings experience from governmental positions he's held in the past. Lake Township is fortunate to have Mr. Johnson as their Supervisor. Mr Johnson spoke and commended the Planning Commission Board for their work on the Master Plan.

Meeting Schedule for 2023; Motion by Jackie Randall to approve the following dates for regular Planning Commission meetings: 4/13/23, 6/15/23, 9/14/23 and 11/16/23. Seconded and passed. Additional meetings may be added if needed.

Possible Relocation of Sutter Rd; Mike Morris and Tom Getz were present from Crystal Downs, along with Matt Skeels from the Benzie County Road Commission and Dusty Christianson & Eric Wilde from Mansfield Land Use Consultants. Mr. Morris gave a short overview of the proposed plan with a handout (on file). Mr. Christianson gave a presentation with maps. In the proposal, they indicate relocating the road will be safer for traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists. Water runoff will be controlled. They will work with the Benzie County Road Commission and MDOT to assure proper standards are met. Crystal Downs will maintain private roads to future lots. Land Lots will be sold to cover the cost of relocating the road. In response to questions, it was stated that: the old road will be returned to a natural state; current zoning will be followed for the lot division; the tentative start date will be fall of 2023; and drainage will be improved. Benzie County Road Commission feels the new road would be safer.

Master Plan;

- a) **Review;** Handouts include maps showing Lake Township Zoning Districts and will be added to the Master Plan (on file). After the Planning Commission approves the new plan, it will be reviewed by the Township Board.

b) Public Input; There was concern about the agriculture description being removed from the updated plan and a recommendation to recognize Lake Township has some agriculture in the Master Plan.

c) Motion to approve/adopt Master Plan; Mark Janeczko moved to approve the Master Plan with the following changes: 1) Recognize there is property in Lake Township being used for agriculture, 2) Amendment to the Objective 1(a) to include an assessment of proper zoning for agricultural property in the township. Seconded by Kyle Orr. Roll call vote, all ayes. Motion passed.

Short Term Rentals; Two handouts 1) Elberta Short Term Rental Ordinance, 2) Short Term Rental Outline (on file). Continued discussion on Short Term Rentals and potential rules. The Planning Commission will create a draft and recommend it to the Township Board by May 2023.

New Business; None

Old Business; None

Other Zoning Matters; None

Public Input; None

Adjournment; Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Scheduled meetings: April 13, 2023, June 15, 2023, September 14, 2023 and November 16, 2023.

Respectfully submitted

Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary

February 17, 2023