

Lake Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on Thursday, January 11, 2024, 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; Josh Mills, Zoning Administrator; Maureen Jeannot, recorder

Public input on agenda; None

Minutes from November 16, 2023; Approved as presented.

Correspondence; Letter received about possible development at 1870 Crystal Dr. to be discussed under New Business.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule; Motion by K. Orr to ratify the meeting schedule for 2024, seconded by M. Janeczko. All ayes.

2024 Meeting Schedule:

January 11, 2024 6:30 pm	February 22, 2024 6:30 pm
April 25, 2024 6:30 pm	June 20, 2024 6:30 pm
August 22, 2024 6:30 pm	October 24, 2024 6:30 pm

Old Business;

Mark Janeczko was hired as the Code Enforcement Officer and reported on short-term rental activity.

A committee has been created to include all lake associations, townships and/or villages to work on the Watershed Zoning needs.

New business;

There was discussion about hiring a consultant to assist with a comprehensive review of our current zoning in the township, to include a broad look into that along with the lake overlays that exist in the township. The goal would be to gain perspective on what other municipalities are doing, and to make sure Lake Township is current with today's zoning. The public survey taken concluded there was a desire to maintain the natural and environmental characteristics of the land. A consulting firm will need to be identified and the Township Board will need to approve the expense. The Planning Commission Board will identify the needed tasks to be completed by the consultant.

The Board discussed a letter received about potential development or changes to a lot at 1870 Crystal Dr. No permits have been applied for, at this time, related to road construction, lot changes, or development of any kind.

Other Zoning Matters; Josh Mills spoke about and there was discussion regarding the Short-term rental language including exemption for existing resorts and other lodging properties.

Public Input; Comment made suggested hiring a local person, Sara Kirk, as consultant for the Master Plan. Tom Kucera, Crystal Lake Watershed, handed out their new Quick Guide Brochure and indicated a Crystal Lake Watershed Forest Management brochure was coming. A copy can be picked up at the township office. Josh Mills, Zoning Administrator, spoke about creating a drawing that showed different layers in the Master Plan Zoning Ordinance. It would possibly include preferred landscaping plans and other guidelines along the lakeshore.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Scheduled meetings: February 22, 2024, April 25, 2024, June 20, 2024, August 22, 2024, October 24, 2024

Respectfully submitted

Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary | January 11, 2024