

Lake Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2026

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 6:30 pm at Lake Township Hall (5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor MI).

Mark Janeczko called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Members Present; Mark Janeczko, Carl Lightfoot, Jackie Randall and Michelle Erwin. Kyle Orr was excused.
Others Present; Maureen Jeannot, recorder; Josh Mills, Twp Zoning Administrator; John Ranson, Benzie Conservation District also, about 15 township residents (sign in list on file).

The agenda was approved as presented.

Motion by J. Randall to approve minutes from the PC meeting February 19, 2026. Second by M. Erwin. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

Public Input; None

Old Business; Discussion about amending Article III Sec. 3.11 Boat Docks Limitations in the current Zoning Ordinance (on file). Discussion about amending Article II, Definition of 'Structure' and definition of 'Dockage' (on file). Motion by M. Erwin to proceed with a Public Hearing on the Boat Docks Limitations amendment, the definition of 'Structure' amendment, and no amendment to the definition of 'Dockage'. Second by C. Lightfoot. Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried. The Public Hearing will be held on March 26, 2026, at 7:00 pm at Lake Township Hall.

New Business; John Ransom of the Benzie Conservation District spoke about impervious surfaces and their effects on lakes and water quality. The PC board discussed zoning allowances for impervious surfaces. Articles I-III were reviewed. More discussion will be needed regarding Accessory Dwelling Units in Sec. 2.29. There was discussion about PA 233 and the language needed in the proposed zoning ordinance updates for renewable energy developments. The board is leaning toward Option 3 to adopt a workable ordinance.

Announcements; None

Public Input; T. Kucera commented on Crystal Lake Watershed information that could be applied to the new zoning ordinances. S. Casey asked if a hoist was a dockage. Answer, yes. J. Williams commented on properties already using shared docks and how they might be affected by the proposed changes. Comment (no name) asking the township to post updated versions of ordinance changes on the website.

M. Janeczko adjourned the meeting at 8:27 pm.

Future Meetings scheduled at Lake Township Hall:

March 26, 6:30 pm with a Public Hearing at 7:00 pm, then continuance of the Meeting after hearing.

April 16, 2026 @ 6:30 pm

May 21, 2026 @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted
Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary
March 12, 2026