

**PUTNAM TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
February 22, 2006  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Balk at 7:00 pm. There were three citizens in attendance.

**ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dobis, Balk, Gannon, Porath, Ligon, Lester.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gazdecki

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Langworthy, Planner, Ingrid Weisz, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Lester & supported by Porath to approve the agenda . MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Under Roll Call the spelling of Van Steenhuyse was corrected.

Under Correspondence, 'meeting.' at the end of the section was deleted.

Under Old Business, C), 'Discussion was' was deleted.

**Motion by Lester & supported by Porath to approve the revised 2/8/06 minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Balk received a brochure about the online Citizen's Planner program developed by LSL from Sally Guyon.

**PLANNER'S REPORT** None.

**ZONING BOARD REPORT** None.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT**

Revised the fire operating millage; allocated \$5,600 for Senior Nutrition Program; Run-through- Hell to be 8/12; individual wanted to shoot off fireworks on 3/4 on Portage Lake; refunded money for a corner lot variance request to ZBA; gravel road work to be done; allowing Verizon & SBC through dedicated easements; Jerry Lester was appointed to ZBA; township will be collecting taxes for Howell Schools; joined the Huron River Watershed Council

**LAND DIVISION REPORT** None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** None.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Opened Call to the Public at 7:15 pm.

Toney Wade, 11350 Patterson Lake Dr., wants a lighting ordinance for upcoming development, says Darwin Rd is rough, had questions about living on a flood plain.

Closed Call to the Public at 7:24 pm.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A) Sliding Scale for A-O district

Langworthy answered members' questions about this option. Land split would be through the land division section. They may be required to have access to a private road. The parent parcel can not be split at a later date unless it gets rezoned. This option was proposed as a means to maintain rural character & agricultural land. It is more restrictive than the current ordinance. This process would be less complicated & take less time than a PUD.

**Motion by Ligon & supported by Dobis to have a sliding scale as an option for property development in the A-O district on property at least 40 acres in size. MOTION DEFEATED(all opposed except Gannon)**

More discussion ensued. Langworthy will send answers to members' questions before the next meeting.

#### B) Wetlands Ordinance Review

There was much discussion about this document. Members were concerned about the size of the document, that it was very complicated & restrictive, whether the original vision had been lost, about cutting grass and removing vegetation in the buffer area, about grandfathering. The smaller the wetland, the greater the negative effect of removing a buffer from it.

**Motion by Ligon and supported by Porath to recommend approval of the revised wetlands ordinance. MOTION DEFEATED (all opposed except Gannon & Ligon).**

Concerns were the size of the buffer (50' vs 30'), the ordinance was seen as too cumbersome, no personnel to enforce it, it would create an overload for the township & people to read, the grandfathering, the management practices for the maintenance of the buffer, invasive plants. Langworthy will compose a paragraph to cover members' concerns & email it to them before the next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### A) Rules Amendment

A Call to the Public was added to the special meeting order, the pledge of allegiance was removed.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS** None.

#### **NEXT MEETING** 3/8/06

A. Zoning Ordinance – 2 sections.

B. Wetlands Ordinance Review

C. Rules Amendment

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Ligon and supported by Gannon to adjourn at 10:31 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Ingrid Weisz**

Recording Secretary