

**PUTNAM TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING  
December 12, 2007  
MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Balk called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. There were 3 citizens in attendance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ligon

OTHERS PRESENT: Steven Van Steenhuyse, Planner (via teleconferencing), Ingrid Weisz, Recording Secretary.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dobis added Item A) Planner Discussion to New Business

**Motion by Gannon & supported by Dobis to approve the revised agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion by Dobis & supported by Gannon to approve the 11/28/07 minutes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Balk received the fall 2007 issue of SEMscope magazine. All members received an invitation to the Putnam Township Christmas Party 12/18/07.

**PLANNER'S REPORT**

Meijer will be submitting a plan for a Master Plan amendment. Van Steenhuyse wanted the members to know that LSL has a business relationship with Meijer although Van Steenhuyse himself has had no dealings with them. LSL will not be representing Meijer in any business involved with Putnam Township. Van Steenhuyse wanted to give the Township Board the option of hiring a different planner for the upcoming Meijer requests. If the members decide to use LSL, he assured them he would continue to evaluate & make recommendations in the best interest of the township from a planner's perspective.

**ZONING BOARD REPORT** No meeting.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD REPORT**

Dobis reported on a special meeting held last week where the contract for the cable franchise agreement was approved.

**LAND DIVISION REPORT** No meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** None.

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Opened call at 7:25 pm

Closed call at 7:26 pm

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### A) Mobile Vending

Members reviewed Van Steenhuyse's text & discussed adding a time period, putting it under special land use permit, charging a fee, allowing them in some residential areas, & adding its definition to the ordinance. Most members agreed with his changes.

### B) Land Use Waiver List

Members reviewed Van Steenhuyse's text. This will now be referred to as a zoning compliance permit. All agreed with the discussed text.

Granting Compliance Permits to previously non conforming properties was placed on the Go Back List.

### C) Permissibility of "Portable Structures"

Members discussed & agreed with Van Steenhuyse's additional language to be added to Chapter 19.

### D) Commercial Kennels

Members agreed that the minimum lot size for commercial kennels should be 10 acres. Van Steenhuyse will review Balk's research on this topic & present his additions at the next meeting.

### E) Home Business Discussion

Since this is a very complex subject, members felt it will take more time to thoroughly review. The decision to go ahead with the adoption of the rest of the ordinance was made. The Planning Commission will continue to discuss Home Businesses at the next meeting.

**Motion by Dobis and supported by Balk to schedule a public hearing on 1/23/08 for the new zoning ordinance. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### D) Go Back List discussion

Only Home Based Businesses and Commercial Kennels remain on the Go Back List.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### A) Planner Discussion

Members had varying opinions about whether to continue with Van Steenhuyse or hire a new planner for the Meijer project. Some wanted to stay with him because he has navigated the Commission through the current language & is familiar with the ordinance & the township. Others felt there may be a conflict of interest involved.

## **OTHER BUSINESS** None.

## **NEXT MEETING** 12/26/07

### A) Commercial Kennels

### B) Home Based Businesses

## **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Opened call at 9:38 pm

Herbert Rossow, East M-36, inquired about the meeting with the supervisor & the planner, mentioned at the previous Planning Commission meeting, concerning the proposed Meijer property. Mr. Rau told Mr. Rossow that he did not know of any meeting. Mr. Rossow was angry that he was told there was no meeting when, in actuality, there was. He asked if the property had been purchased. Balk stated that Mr. Rossow needed to speak with the supervisor about these issues. Planning

Commission meetings are open to the public. Van Steenhuyse stated that preliminary meetings of the planner & supervisor are under no obligation to be open to the public. There has been no application to the Township by Meijer to date. Mr. Rossow's concerns are not in the jurisdiction of the Planning Commission at this point.

Closed call at 9:42 pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Lester and supported by Porath to adjourn at 9:43 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Ingrid Weisz**

Recording Secretary