

Williamstown Township Planning Commission

Annual Report

April, 2020 – March, 2021

Planning Commissioners: Gerald Eidt (Chair), Rob Stanford (vice-chair),; Commissioners Annette Davis, Dali Giese (Secretary), Rex LaMore, Jim Flore, Toby Weston, Donna Tocarchick, and Twp. Board Trustees Janet Eyster and Keith Creagh.

Staff: Chris Doozan from McKenna Associates and Jim Howard.

Meetings

Due to the Covid 19 Virus the May 27,2020 meeting was cancelled. The PC held a special meeting in June, 2020 and the November, 2020 meeting was rescheduled to 11/16/20. All meetings were held remotely via Zoom.

At the June 24, 2020 meeting the By-Laws were amended to include the Pledge of Allegiance and Approval of the Agenda as regular agenda items.

- Rezoning

None

- SUPs and Site Plan Review

None

- Site Plan Review

- ARK / Oddfellows Contracting: After the property owners obtained variances from the ZBA, the PC approved a motion at its March 24, 2021 meeting recommending approval of the site plan by the Township Board. The Township Board approved the site plan at its meeting on 4/14/21.

- Subdivision Ordinance Updates

None

- Subdivision Plat

None

- Miscellaneous

- Pop-Up Businesses: A committee was formed and after much discussion a letter was sent to all area restaurants/food service businesses asking for their input, particularly about food trucks. Since mostly negative feedback was received (the Covid situation being a factor) the committee's recommendation to the PC was to take no action. The PC's recommendation to the Township Board therefore was to maintain the status quo, where a food truck is only permitted in conjunction with a special event.
- The noise issue was reviewed with a committee formed and after much discussion no action was taken.
- Zoning Ordinance Updates
 - Amendment to the B-2 District /AFC: A text amendment was proposed by Krauss, owners of the Williamston Inn, 1133 E. Grand River to allow Adult foster Care facilities in the B-2/Commercial Center District. A public hearing was held on 11/16/20 and after much discussion a motion was approved by the Planning Commission to recommend approval by the Township Board. The Township Board approved the changes at its meeting on 12/9/2020.
 - Events Barns / Centers: language was approved by the Planning Commission and forwarded to the Township Board, which sent it back for further clarification. After more discussion and review a Public Hearing was eventually held on March 24, 2021, and the Planning Commission on 3/24/21 subsequently approved a motion recommending approval by the Township Board.
 - Cluster Zoning Option: After much discussion at prior meetings and committee meetings a public hearing was held on March 24, 2021, and The Planning Commission then approved a motion recommending approval of the draft amendment by the Township Board.
 - Farm Animals Permit Committee/Farm Animals on Non-Farm Parcels Committee (FANFPC): The Permit Committee met once before the Covid disruption. The FANFP Committee was later formed and met on 3/31/21 to review an initial draft from Planning Consultant Chris Doozan, with the intent of forwarding it to the full PC for review at its next meeting.
- Elections Committee

Approval of current slate of Eidt, Stanford and Giese at November 16, 2020 meeting

New Residential Construction

- 863 Haslett (demolish old, rebuild)
- 6165 Shoeman
- 128 Swallowtail
- 4890 Barton
- 63 Barry (demolish old, rebuild)
- Moyer Rd. (parcel # 33-03-03-25-251-002)
- 266 Twin Ponds
- 649 E. Haslett
- 3815 Zimmer
- 224 Damon

Land Divisions/Combinations

There were 9 applications processed which resulted in a net of 11 new parcels in the Township