

Williamstown Township Planning Commission

Annual Report

April, 2022 – March, 2023

Planning Commissioners: Gerald Eidt (Chair), Rob Stanford (vice-chair), Dali Giese (secretary), Commissioners Annette Davis (resigned effective July, 2022), Jim Flore, Toby Weston, Donna Tocarchick, Ron Poth and Twp. Board Trustee Keith Creagh. Jim Brinker was appointed to the commission by the township board at their September, 2022 meeting.

Staff: Chris Doozan from McKenna Associates and Jim Howard.

Meetings

The September meeting was rescheduled to October 5, 2022 and the November meeting was rescheduled to 11/2/22.

- Rezoning

None

- SUPs and Site Plan Review

- Site Plan Review

The ARK / Oddfellows accessory building was recommended for approval by the Township Board at the 5/25/22 PC meeting; it was approved by Township Board at its 7/13/22 meeting.

- Subdivision Ordinance Updates

None

- Subdivision Plat

None

- Miscellaneous

- Approved 2021/2022 Annual Report at the May 25, 2022 meeting.

- The Joint Committee on Event Barns reconvened on August 16, 2022 at the request of the Planning Commission to review the draft in light of a court ruling regarding alcohol for the Old Mission Peninsula wineries.

- Joint Committee and PC members did two site visits to event barns: Peacock Road Farms near Laingsburg and Tandale near Brighton.
- A Capital Improvements Plan Committee was formed and began meeting in November to draft the Township's first plan.
- Zoning Ordinance Updates
 - The Ingham County Drain Commission's Stormwater Management Standards were recommended by the PC for approval by the Township Board, by reference as Section 2.25; the Township Board adopted the standards at the July 13, 2022 meeting.
 - The PC reviewed the issue of including telecommuting in the Home Occupation section of the Ordinance and determined no action was needed at this time.
 - At the 11/2/22 meeting the PC recommended the Farm Signs on Residential Parcels Amendment for approval by the Township Board; the Township Board adopted the amendment at its December 14, 2022 meeting.
 - At the 11/2/22 meeting the PC recommended the amendment for Event Barns be approved by the Township Board; the Township Board adopted the amendment at its December 14, 2022 meeting.
 - At the March 22, 2023 meeting the PC recommended approval by the Township Board of an amendment for Medical Marijuana as a Home Occupation
 - At the January, 2023 meeting the PC began reviewing an updated draft amendment to the wind power and solar power sections of the ZO

- Elections Committee

The PC approved current slate of Eidt (chair), Stanford (vice-chair) and Giese (secretary) at the November 2, 2022 meeting

New Residential Construction

- 966 Cherry Valle
- 22 Shoemith
- 150 Shoemith
- 65 Daggertail
- 90 Shoemith

- 450 E. Grand River
- 312 E. Grand River (permit expired)
- 921 Barry
- 32 Monarch

11 solar permits issued (April, 2022-March, 2023)

Land Divisions/Combinations/Transfers

There were 7 applications processed which resulted in a net of 2 additional parcels in the Township during the 2022 calendar year.

Township Parks Improvements

The “Red Cedar Woodlands” forest was planted and nurtured at Community Park by volunteers

Routine maintenance activities