

LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting  
Joint Meeting with Lafayette Township Board of Trustees  
6776 Wedgewood Road, Medina, Ohio  
December 7, 2010 @ 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Commission Chair Karen Schoonover called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Five members of the Zoning Commission were present: Karen Schoonover, Sherri Meinke, Russ Green, Dianne Wenslow, and Matt Strehle. Jerry Cook (alternate) and Gary Kiszak (alternate) were also present.

Trustee Chair Lynda Bowers called the Lafayette Township Board of Trustees meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Trustee Bryon Macron and Trustee Lynda Bowers were present with Trustee Nanci Shanley arriving at 7:35 p.m.

Trustee Bowers made a motion to suspend verbatim minutes and allow the Zoning Commission to be responsible for the minutes, which the Board of Trustees will adopt by reference. Trustee Macron seconded the motion. Both Trustee Bowers and Trustee Macron voted aye and the motion passed.

**Zoning Commission Minutes**

Upon motion by Karen Schoonover, duly seconded by Sherri Meinke, the November 4, 2010, Zoning Commission regular meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted and signed.

**New Business**

Chair Schoonover indicated that several members of the Zoning Commission had completed the recent Medina County University course entitled Planning and Zoning II. She inquired about reimbursement of the course fee. Trustee Bowers indicated that the trustees had already approved reimbursement of the course fee but proof of completion would need to be provided to Fiscal Officer Shirley Bailey.

**Old Business**

This joint meeting is to discuss the Lafayette Township Comprehensive Plan (2010-2030) as prepared by the Lafayette Township Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee with the assistance of the Medina County Department of Planning Services (Zoning Commission approval on 11/4/10.).

Trustee Bowers stated that the intent of our Comprehensive Plan is to put together a road map of what the community's goals are for the future of our township. It's something that our Zoning Commission and Trustees can rely on as a guide in making future land use decisions. It's not controlling but it certainly will give us an idea of what our community wants to see in order to make those decisions. It is important that this was a resident driven process. We thank the Zoning Commission members and those members of the community who participated in this revision over a long period of time.

Zoning Commission Chair Schoonover stated that the township would be referencing this document in its land use decisions because it is the vision of what the community set forth. It needs to be a document that is known and a document that will stand in court.

Discussion items included:

- The 2010 Census document should be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan because some of the data could substantially change. It has to be certified by the President before the end of this month. Some changes would be as to the student population and which school they attended and the population figure since several subdivisions have developed over the years. It's important that the information be as accurate as possible because when a particular industry is looking at our community it will look for work force and those work force numbers are going to shift. It's only a matter of days before the 2010 Census is certified and that information should be easily added to the current revision. The consensus was to add the 2010 Census information when available. Trustee Bowers will notify everyone when it is approved. Suggested revisions to the applicable text and tables in the Comprehensive Plan will be made and the Zoning Commission and Board of Trustees will review them before finalizing the changes.
- On page 27, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph entitled Law Enforcement Services, should be rewritten as follows: "1. Law Enforcement Services for the Township transitioned during the formulation of this Comprehensive Plan, moving from an independent department with three patrol officers to a less-costly community policing contract service with the Medina County Sheriff's Office for patrol officers." The consensus was to make this minor change.
- Trustee Bowers indicated there was some empirical data in the Comprehensive Plan and/or in the tables therein and she wanted to be able to verify the sources of that data. Chair Schoonover indicated that the Zoning Commission did discuss many of these issues (numerous times) with Medina County Planning Services and did have source documents for many of the table references that listed the source as "U. S. Census Bureau". Trustee Bowers will verify the sources and the data accordingly. It was pointed out that whenever possible there should be uniformity in the citation of the source as the "U. S. Census Bureau".
- Everyone agreed that the mapping and format that was used made sense, is understandable and is user-friendly.
- The Board of Trustees (Trustee Bowers) will contact Bob Arnold to get all the supporting documents (notes, sign-in sheets and other work product) that was used from the various Steering Committee meetings so it can be kept on file at the township office.

Both Trustee Macron and Trustee Bowers stated they have no concerns with the work product but they would like the 2010 Census data inserted in the revised Comprehensive

Plan. Upon her arrival, Trustee Shanley also indicated she read through the document and has no concerns with it.

After the empirical data and sources are verified and the 2010 Census data inserted in the Comprehensive Plan revision, everyone present will be notified and the Zoning Commission will review it, probably at a January 2011 meeting.

Consensus of the group was that the next step would be an Open House with an invitation extended to the Steering Committee members, the various Medina County agencies who participated in the meeting, contiguous townships/villages and other Medina County dignitaries as well as township residents. Tentatively the Open House would be held at the Medina County University Center on the regular February Zoning Commission meeting night (February 1, 2011). The Board of Trustees will make the necessary arrangements.

The Board of Trustees would then consider adopting the revised Comprehensive Plan sometime thereafter since input is anticipated from those attending the Open House.

Zoning Commission Chair Schoonover inquired of the Trustees if plans were being made in the 2011 budgeting process to have funds available for having professional assistance in updating the Zoning Resolution to get the language in compliance with and to reflect what is shown in the Comprehensive Plan. Trustee Bowers indicated the Trustees had one more budgeting session to be set and that proposals for such assistance would be discussed at that time.

#### **Announcements**

The next regular Zoning Commission meeting (organizational meeting) will be held Tuesday, January 4, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the township hall.

#### **Adjournment**

Upon motion by Karen Schoonover, duly seconded by Dianne Wenslow, it was unanimous that the Zoning Commission meeting be adjourned. Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Marlene L. Oiler, Certified PP, PLS  
Lafayette Township Zoning Commission Secretary

(Note: Minutes approved on 1/4/11.)