

**Pennfield Charter Township
Planning Commission Meeting
Minutes of August 3, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at the Pennfield Middle School cafeteria. Members present were Jon Bartlett, Jack Pooler, J.R. Walter and Paul Anderson. Curtis Whitaker and Tammi Damerow were excused. Brad Messenger was absent. A quorum was met.

Others present: Rob Behnke, Sandra Cummings, Kevin Smith from the City of Battle Creek, Jim Courey from the Calhoun County Conservation District and Mark Lambert.

All attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Paul Anderson, seconded by Jack Pooler to approve the Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2015. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION: EXPECTATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A 5 YEAR RECREATIONAL PLAN

a) Southcentral Michigan Planning Council, represented by Lee Adams

Mr. Lee Adams of the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council went over an overview and timeline for the Parks and Recreation Planning Process. He indicated the process would be broken into three phases. These would be Phase One: Data Collection and Analysis in September and early October 2015; Phase Two: Public Input in October 2015; and Phase Three: Writing of the Plan in late October and November 2015.

Phase One will identify existing parks and nature areas, types of amenities that would be feasible, and use GIS mapping to determine optimal locations.

Phase Two will be used to launch public input campaigns, possibly at school conferences or football games, through a mailed survey to parents of school-age children and township residents and local media approach. Youth involvement will be important as they will probably be the largest group to utilize recreational facilities.

Phase Three will be the writing of the Plan, to determine locations and types of future parks. Possible involvement will need to be researched with other jurisdictions such as

the DNR for funding for aquatic development, and the City of Battle Creek for locations adjacent to property owned by Pennfield Township.

BOARD MEMBERS COMMENTS

JR Walter commented on the proposed Truck Ordinance, and the refuse trucks that travel Gorsline Road.

Jack Pooler commented on the progress of Lakeland Asphalt and the road paving project. Jon Bartlett will not be here for the Planning Commission meeting on September 14, 2015. The other members should decide if they want to change the meeting date for September and then notify the other members.

Rob Behnke commented on the large, toxic hogweed growing in the township that was removed by authorities recently.

Paul Anderson made a motion, seconded by Jack Pooler to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 pm. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Sandra Cummings
Recording Secretary