

Keweenaw County Planning Commission
Regular Meeting
June 28, 2022

Keweenaw County Courthouse 4:00 PM

Roll Call:	John Parsons - Present	Steve Siira - Present
	Barry Koljonen - Present	Dan Steck - Present Zoom
	Jim LaMotte - Absent	Daniel Yoder - Present
	Jim Vivian, Commissioner - Present	
	Sara Heikkila, Zoning Administrator - Present	

4 Member quorum is present, meeting was appropriately posted.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approve Agenda

Motion (M) to approve amended agenda Dan Yoder / Second (S) Barry Koljonen

Approve minutes of the regular meeting on May 24, 2022.

M to approve John Parsons / S Steve Siira

Guests: Ian Sorsen, Chris Sorsen, Mark Ahlborn, Mike Borlee

Public Comment Communications: Email from Andrew Bain regarding chickens.

New Business

Zoning Ordinance text amendment workshops held on April 22, May 16, June 6, and June 28.

Additional workshops – propose dates and times.

➔ Next workshop will be Monday 8/29/22 @ 3PM

Planning Commission and ZBA need 1 new member each.

➔ Discussed advertising on social media and Keweenaw Report.

Chickens in residential districts.

➔ Discussed existing language in the ordinance regarding the keeping of livestock. It was the consensus among the Planning Commissioners that the requirements for keeping livestock in residential neighborhoods is fair.

General Glass home business on 5 Mile Point Road, submitted application but doesn't meet the requirements. Anticipate them requesting a variance.

➔ Discussion regarding the 400 square feet of working space. Interpret the 400 square footage as working space and not building size. Sara Heikkila to review application and evaluate whether or not they meet the conditions for operating a home business.

Dockside Resort has been working on renovating the cabins they bought from the County in 2010.

Discussed the need for a Special Land Use permit for operating their Resort.

Denied a zoning permit for a sauna proposed 25 feet away from the highwater mark, property owner is requesting a variance, ZBA Variance Request Public Hearing scheduled for 7/14 at 4pm.

Enforcement Issues:

Deck and fence in Ahmeek – no permits obtained. Two letters have been sent to the property owner, the second one certified, requesting applications be submitted.

➔ The property owner has responded, and the zoning permitting was approved.

Chickens and signage on US 41 – no permits obtained. Sent a letter requesting applications be completed.

Received an in-person complaint regarding roosters and an excessive number of birds in Fulton. Sent a letter and have been in correspondence with the property owner.

The Planning Commissioners want to propose to the Board of Commissioners that the Zoning Administrator position be a fulltime position. John Parsons will draft a letter to the Board of Commissioners.

Unfinished Business

Ahmeek Adventure Mine Campground Expansion ➔ Special Land Use permitting
Initial public hearing cancelled due to an incomplete application. Once a complete application is received, the Public Hearing will be rescheduled.

Fanny Hooe Campground 2021 expansion – did not obtain the required zoning permit ➔ Special Land Use permitting. EGLE permitting approved and was sent to Grant Township in February 2021. Received an email from the property owner on 6/2 stating that the application would be submitted the following week. To date, a complete application has not been received.

Bruce & Carol Tusa Firewood processing and sales business, Zoning Variance approved.

➔ Zoning Administrator Report

Final Comments

Next Regular Meeting August 29, 3:00 PM
M to Adjourn Barry Koljonen / S Steve Siira