

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the St. Joseph County Planning Commission was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 in the MSU Extension Office, 612 East Main Street, Centreville, Michigan. Vice-Chairman Huffman presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Warren Atkins, Edward Bell, Gregg Dohm, Lon Huffman, Elena Meadows, Doug Pagels, Mark Ripplinger, Rick Shaffer, and Joe Woodin

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Horton

OTHERS PRESENT: Patrick Hudson, Pat Kulikowski, Paige Willis, and Doris Ripplinger

Vice-Chairman Huffman called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Pat Kulikowski asked for the following additions: Mendon Township Rezoning Request and Annual Report. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Warren Atkins, supported by Rick Shaffer. Motion carried. A motion to approve the minutes of January 29, 2025 as presented was made by Ed Bell, supported by Mark Ripplinger. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Paige Willis asked when was last time an annual report was made by Planning Commission. Pat responded that it has been a long time. Paige asked where she could obtain training regarding planning. Patrick responded through Michigan Township Association, Michigan Planning Association and local MSU office.

Pat stated she invited Doris Ripplinger to the meeting tonight as she has expressed interest in serving on the Planning Commission.

OLD BUSINESS:

County Master Plan Update. Patrick Hudson said if anything needs correcting, please let him know. Patrick notified local participating units to let him know by March 28. Each community will need to send to their Board and authorize distribution of the plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fabius Township – Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Amendments to regulate Battery Energy Storage System. A motion was made by Rick Shaffer, supported by Doug Pagels, to forward SMPC's comments to Fabius Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried.

Park Township – Zoning Ordinance Amendments and Zoning Map Amendments. There are multiple amendments and rezone of 13 parcels from AR Agriculture Residential to RR Rural Residential. A motion was made by Doug Pagels, supported by Joe Woodin, to forward SMPC's comments to Park Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried.

Mottville Township – Zoning Ordinance Amendment. Amendment for Marijuana retail facilities. A motion was made by Doug Pagels, supported by Joe Woodin, to forward SMPC’s comments to Mottville Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried.

Mendon Township – Rezoning Request. A rezoning request on Butler Road to R-1 Rural Residential. A motion was made by Joe Woodin, supported by Ed Bell, to forward SMPC’s comments to Mendon Township for their review and consideration. Motion carried.

Annual Report. Pat Kulikowski said the County Administrator asked if Planning Commission could present an annual report to the Board of Commissioners. Pat spoke with Chair Horton and he can present on May 20.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pat Kulikowski said a copy of the Village of Colon Parks and Recreation Plan 2025-2030 was received. No action necessary.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Gregg Dohm, supported by Mark Ripplinger, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Kulikowski
Secretary