

Wilson Township Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
August 6, 2014

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:** Vice Chair John Mathers called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Planning Commission (PC) Members Present: John Mathers, Jeff Argetsinger, Mark Wuerth, Ray Guzniczak, Mel Nowland, and Aaron Nordman. Absent: Jon Jasinski. Also present: recording secretary Marilyn Beebe, and planner Scott McPherson. During the meeting, a representative from Shoreline Marine Construction arrived and addressed the group.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Moved by Jeff Argetsinger and second by Mel Nowland to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2014 Wilson Township Planning Commission meeting as written. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: Ayes – 6, Nays – 0. Absent: - 1. Motion carried.**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Review possible grant request for Fall Park Improvements. Dredging the canal is at the top of the list of park improvements. However, as Scott reported, grants for just dredging aren't being funded by the Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF). If the dredging was part of a larger improvement plan for the park, it is possible that the township could receive some grant monies. A 25% match is required by the MNRTF. During the discussion, a representative from Shoreline Marine Construction joined the meeting and provided an estimate of the cost based on the proposed project - \$100,000 to \$200,000.
2. Review Wilson Township Visitor Center / property acquisition. The PC also discussed a land acquisition at the corner of Pearsall and Fuller Roads for a Wilson Township Visitor Center. The project was proposed to the Board of Trustees by Cheri Leach with Raven Hill. Grants would be sought and matches would be funded by contributions and fund raising. The PC thought a partnership with Raven Hill could be a good thing, however they expressed several concerns:
  - Who will maintain it
  - The property will be off the tax roll
  - Don't see the need for another park in the township
  - Survey responses don't support construction of another park
  - Short-term lease arrangement with Raven Hill
  - Low resident usage

While the PC didn't feel comfortable with the project, they all thought it would be appropriate to have a spokesperson from Raven Hill address the PC at the September or October meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Scott reported that Mr. Jasper with Boyne Valley Storage may be doing some changes to his existing site plan in the next month or two.

**OTHER COMMUNICATIONS / REPORTS**

1. Planner and ZA Report: Submitted.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by Mel Nowland to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM, second by Ray Guzniczak. **Voice vote: Ayes – 6, Nays - 0. Motion carried.** The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2014 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Marilyn Beebe, Recording Secretary

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Mel Nowland, Secretary