

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST BRANCH PLANNING COMMISSION HELD VIRTUALLY AND IN PERSON  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL, 121 NORTH FOURTH STREET, ON TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021.

Chairperson Cori Lucynski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Bob David, Yvonne DeRoso, Mike Jackson, Cori Lucynski, and Rusty Showalter

Absent: Kara Fachting

Others officers in attendance: City Manager John Dantzer.

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All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**MOTION BY DEROSO, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE  
REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 11, 2021.**

**Yes — David, DeRoso, Jackson, Lucynski, Showalter**

**No – None**

**Absent – Fachting**

**Motion carried**

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Vicki Thomas of Cottage Vision Design presented her permit for a flag style sign in front of her business. It was noted that because it is a flag style banner it would need to be approved by the Commission.

Member David asked if the sign would be brought in at night and Ms. Thomas noted it would only be put out when the business is open.

Member Showalter noted his concern for the aesthetics downtown with multiple flag style banners.

City Manager Dantzer note his concern that the free-standing base may not be strong enough to keep it in place. Ms. Thomas noted they were aware of the wind issues and spent extra to get the base recommended by the manufacturing company for that type of application.

Member DeRoso noted she would like to relook at allowing these types of signs once Houghton Ave is redone.

Member Showalter noted he would like to look at having blade signs for all downtown businesses. It was discussed to see if DDA would look into helping fund these types of signs.

**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPROVE THE SIGN PERMIT FOR COTTAGE  
VISION DESIGN AS SUBMITTED.**

**Yes — David, DeRoso, Jackson, Lucynski, Showalter**

**No – None**

**Absent – Fachting**

**Motion carried**

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A sign permit was presented for Loggers Depot. It was again noted that because it was a flag style banner, it needed to be approved by the Commission. It was further noted that they had one approved last year as well and that it was just going to continue what they already had in place,

**MOTION BY DEROSO, SECOND BY JACKSON, TO APPROVE THE SIGN PERMIT FOR LOGGERS DEPOT AS SUBMITTED.**

**Yes — David, DeRoso, Jackson, Lucynski, Showalter**

**No – None**

**Absent – Fachting**

**Motion carried**

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A zoning approval request was submitted on behalf of Cuzins Cycle in order to get their used vehicle dealer license. It was noted that this was previously approved but because of a break up of ownership, it had to be resubmitted in the new ownership name.

Chairperson Lucynski noted she would need to recuse herself from the vote due to a conflict of interest as she is part owner in Cuzins Cycle.

Due to Chairman Lucynski recusing herself, Member David took over as Vice Chair.

**MOTION BY JACKSON, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPROVE THE ZONING APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZE MANAGER DANTZER TO SIGN THE APPROVAL AS THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR.**

**Yes — David, DeRoso, Jackson, Showalter**

**No – None**

**Abstain-Lucynski**

**Absent – Fachting**

**Motion carried**

With the vote being completed, member Lucynski took back the role of Chairperson.

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**MOTION BY DAVID, SECOND BY SHOWALTER, TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF JOSH ERICKSON TO COUNCIL TO FILL THE OPEN SEAT ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

**Yes — David, DeRoso, Jackson, Lucynski, Showalter**

**No – None**

**Absent – Fachting**

**Motion carried**

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Chairperson Lucynski noted that Member Fachting would be shortly submitting her letter of resignation.

Chairperson Lucynski also noted that Cuzins Cycle would be having a grand reopening on Saturday, June 12. It was noted that this was the also the weekend of the garage sales and it was discussed that it would be nice to see downtown events that weekend including sidewalk sales. Chairperson Lucynski also noted that COVID numbers were on a downward trend. Chairperson Lucynski also noted her concern that many of the downtown businesses all close on Mondays.

Member David noted his disappointment the Memorial Day parade was cancelled but commended the ceremony at the memorial.

Member David also noted the Optimist kids fishing derby was not as heavily attended this year.

Member Jackson also commented on how nice the Memorial Day ceremony was.

Member Jackson also noted the Meijer's construction was coming along and still had an anticipated completion of spring of 22.

Member DeRosio noted real estate sales are continuing to be very busy and went over some of the local deals she has been working on including some new duplexes throughout town.

Member Showalter commended the DPW for how nice the park looks and how marvelous the downtown flowers are this year.

Manager Dantzer asked about the upcoming cannabis informational meeting.

Manager Dantzer asked about virtual meetings moving forward and it was the consensus to hold all meetings in person only.

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Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm