

**Richmond Township
Planning Commission Minutes
January 12, 2011**

1. **Meeting called to order @ 7:15 PM.**

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

3. **Roll Call:**

Members present: Pat Korpi, Darlene Miljour, George Miljour, and Alan Pierce. Public present- Michelle Dewitt.

Members absent: Scott Mills, Rob Conklin, Ray LaMere .

4. **Approval of agenda:** The Agenda as presented will be used as the basis for the meeting. There was not a quorum of Commissioners present so no official actions were taken.

5. **Approval of Minutes: No action on November 10, 2010 minutes.**

6. **First Public comment:** None

7. **Public Hearings:** None

8. **Communications:**

Al indicated that correspondence dated December 15, 2010 was sent to Curtis Broshears and that he signed the agreement and returned it to the Township on December 22, 2010. There is now a Mutual Agreement signed by both parties that will address the violation by April 15, 2011.

9. **Old Business:** None

10. **New Business:**

10a. Initial Review- Proposed Alternate Energy System and Detail amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

Al addressed the ten pages of proposed text revisions to the Zoning Ordinance and their relationship to the several memos that have accrued over the last few years since revising the ordinance. Revisions are proposed for Wind and Solar Energy Systems, Home Occupation- Class One in the Industrial District, Schedule of Regulations R-1 District Setbacks, and animal regulations clarification. The basis for district placement of Solar and Wind Energy was discussed as well as concerns expressed by numerous individuals on the Internet regarding noise created by industrial wind turbines. Al has proposed erring on the side of caution for the industrial turbines and delaying text completion to allow more time for this issue to be addressed in other venues thus benefitting from the experience of others. Proposed front yard setbacks in the R-1 district will be clarified prior to the Public Hearing by review of aerial photography and house placements in Palmer.

An addition to the Wind portion will assess the applicability of the Tall Structures Act in relation to FAA requirements. A Public Hearing for consideration of the proposed Zoning text amendments will be advertised for the March 9th Planning Commission meeting.

10b. Election of Officers for 2011 - **No Action.**

11. CUPPAD - Master Plan:

11a. Text Drafts

- i. Michelle discussed Chapter 10.0 Goals and Recommendations {draft 12/02/10} and received verbal comments and proposed text revisions.
- ii. Similarly Chapter 11.0 Future Land Use and Zoning Plan { draft 12/01/10 } was reviewed with discussion followed by proposed text revisions.
- iii. All Comprehensive Plan Maps were relayed to the County but were not finished as of this meeting. Michelle will be meeting with Thrya Karlstrom , Marquette County Planner, to finalize page numbers, etc. We should have a complete draft of the Plan for review in March.

12. Zoning Administrators Report:

12 a., b., & c. Zoning Compliance Permits Update, Zoning Action Requests, and Zoning Administrators Report all thru January 06, 2011 were furnished to the Commissioners.

13. Second public comment: No public comment made.

14. Adjournment: Next meeting will be held on March 09, 2011. Adjournment at 8:50 PM.

Submitted by Pat Korpi, Secretary