

Burt Township Planning Commission  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Unapproved Meeting Minutes: June 12; 2019

Commission Attendance: Phil Bontrager, Martha Greenwald Lou Lundquist, Craig Winnie, Lisa Marks,  
and Zoning Commissioner: Norm Geiger

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Marks at 5:15 pm

Agenda approved

Meeting minutes approved for May 8, 2019

**New Business:**

1. Chairman Marks questioned Lundquist about the outcome at the Townships meeting with ? regarding a Medical Marijuana Dispensary within Burt Township; Lundquist informed us that ? did not appear for his presentation. Chairman Marks asked Lundquist to inform the Township Board that the MTA window, i.e. the time frame to either adopt or opt out of the Dispensary designation, was limited ( Sept?); noting that if they choose to opt out now they can opt back in at a later date. Many areas were waiting for the State to clarify its legal standing on this issue. It was noted that many towns in the UP have opted out including the Soo and Marquette.
2. Lundquist brought up an issue regarding a land division application due to erosion in school forest. It was noted that the city assessor was overseeing the approval process, whereby, Geiger pointed out that it is not the job of the assessor to grant divisions, rather this issue should go before the Planning Commission for consideration, then to the Township board for final approval. Lundquist was asked by Marks to bring this issue to the board.
3. Chairman Marks, also, revisited for consideration the issue of trailers in R-1, specifically the one that sits on the beach in front of the Soldenski property. It was noted that it has never fallen under a permitted use in any past or present ordinance and, therefore is not in compliance. Geiger noted that usually a trailer must not be visible from neighboring properties and is illegal where it sits. Winnie noted that new Property owners on the point are using the Soldenski trailer as a precedent for their plans to do the same on their property.
4. Geiger noted that Conditional Use permits can be withdrawn at any time and should be required to be renewed yearly; Bontrager thought bi-annual was sufficient.
5. Enforcement capabilities was, again, brought up as being a limiting factor in the townships ability to effectively govern. Geiger pointed out by levying tax liens or penalties was one way the township could combat noncompliance.
6. Winnie brought up concerns that erosion initiated by the new road by Tim Swift on his Bluff property that extends down to E.H58, along with the rainy weather, is causing the streams in that area and lowlands to fill up with mud and back up onto properties below the bluff. He noted that Roger Pilon was one of the concerned neighbors along with Winnie. Greenwald agreed to contact the DEQ to look into what could be done to address this.
7. Finally, Bontrager has created a spreadsheet to better analyze where conditional permits are required within the different zoning areas in the township; Marx is going to facilitate by adapting it to excel to further the progress for amending articles III and IV of the Ordinance.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Martha Greenwald