

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING – DECEMBER 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairperson Shaffer.

Members Present: Larry Shaffer, Lou Lundquist, Phil Bontrager, Christine Lundquist, & Nancy Griswold (by telephone)

Motion by Lou Lundquist, supported by Phil Bontrager to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Phil, supported by Lou to open the public meeting on the Conditional Use Permit application submitted by Karen Brzis. Motion carried.

Larry noted that the Zoning Administrator had no issues with the request. Ms. Brzis was invited to address the Commission regarding her request. She discussed her history in Grand Marais and relationship with Axel Niemi and the Gitche Gumee Museum. She indicated that she wanted to reduce time spent at the Museum and eventually close the shop in town after the upcoming summer. However, she would like to have a shop available on a part time basis at her home on Newberg Road.

Following a few comments by committee members, a motion was made by Christine, supported by Phil, to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Christine, supported by Lou, to approve the conditional use permit requested by Karen Brzis for the property located at 21401 Newberg Road to use an existing outbuilding (20 x 24) as a shop to sell agate based gifts and self published books during the summer of each year for nine hours per week, consistent with the request made by Ms Brzis in a letter to the Planning Commission dated November 1, 2020; said document made part of this record. Motion Carried.

Recreation Plan documents were not received by most of the committee members, so it was determined that there would have to be another meeting scheduled. Lou indicated that he would like us to consider expanding the bike/walking path going to the Coast Guard point to include the hill and possibly going to Woodland Park. A path to Agate Beach might also be developed.

Larry reviewed the timeline for getting the plan completed, and suggested we meet again next week.

Motion by Lou, supported by Christine to receive the plan for review and to open the draft plan for public review. Motion Carried.

Motion by Christine, supported by Lou to meet again on December 10 at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

Motion by Christine, supported by Lou to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.