

FREMONT AREA JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 12, 2006
5:00 – 8:00 PM
Fremont Area District Library
Community Room

Members Present: Dayton Township: Shirley Hooker, Supervisor
Dayton Township: Barbara Popp, Board Member
Dayton Township: Vern Staley, Planning Commissioner
Dayton/Sheridan Townships: Peter Lance, Zoning Administrator
Sheridan Charter Township: Don Potter, Board Member
Sheridan Charter Township: Jeff Wharton, Planning Commissioner
Sheridan Charter Township: Jack Taylor, Planning Commissioner (Acting Chair)
Sherman Township: Fran Derks, Board Member
Sherman Township: Joan Obits, Supervisor
Sherman Township: Roman Miller, Zoning Administrator
City of Fremont: Peg May, Planning Commissioner
City of Fremont: Jim Breinling, Mayor Pro Tem
City of Fremont: James Rynberg, Mayor
City of Fremont: Richard Rought, Zoning Administrator

Members Absent: Dayton Township: Chuck Witteveen, Planning Commissioner
Sherman Township: Randy Paulson, Planning Commissioner
Sherman Township: Warren Stroven, Planning Commissioner
Sheridan Charter Township: Dave Lue, Supervisor
City of Fremont: Chuck Whitman, Planning Commissioner

Alternates Present: Sheridan Charter Township: Jennifer Christensen, Board Member
Sheridan Charter Township: Sandy Vandenberg, Planning Commissioner

Presenters: Land Information Access
Association (LIAA): Joe VanderMeulen, Executive Director
Muskegon River Watershed
Assembly: Terry Stilton
Grand Valley State
University: Betty Gajewski
LSL Planning, Inc.: Steve Langworthy
MSU Extension: Ryan Coffey

Call to Order & Welcome

Jack Taylor announced that the Chair, Chuck Witteveen, was not able to make the meeting and that he would be chairing the meeting in Mr. Witteveen's absence. The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

Review & Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2006 Fremont Area Joint Planning Committee meeting.

Presentation on Muskegon River Watershed Educational Project

Terry Stilton and Betty Gajewski gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Muskegon River Watershed Educational Project.

Presentation on the New Combined Michigan Zoning Act

Steve Langworthy of LSL Planning, Inc. gave a PowerPoint presentation on the new combined Michigan Zoning Enabling Act.

At 6:05 p.m. the meeting portion of the agenda concluded. Following a long recess, the public forum on the "Benefits of Establishing a Joint Planning Agreement" began at 7:02 p.m.

Public Forum on the Benefits of Establishing a Joint Planning Agreement

Jack Taylor gave a brief presentation on the history of the Joint Planning Committee in the Fremont Community and the value of joint planning. Joe VanderMeulen gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the various elements of the proposed Joint Planning Agreement and the benefits of establishing joint planning. The following individuals voiced their support of the Fremont Community's joint planning efforts:

- Shirley Hooker, Dayton Township
- Joan Obits, Sherman Township
- Jennifer Christensen, Sheridan Charter Township
- Mayor Rynberg, City of Fremont

Ryan Coffey also gave a brief presentation on the benefits of joint planning.

A question and answer session followed the presentations. Some of the key issues addressed included:

- The cost of joint planning vs. planning by individual governmental units
- The transition process from having four separate planning commissions to having one joint one
- How and when a governmental unit can withdraw
- Getting buy-in from the entire community

Note: A count of people who attended the public forum was taken; sixty-seven (67) people were in attendance.

Plan for Next Meeting

The Joint Planning Committee decided its next meeting would be on Monday, June 26, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. at the Sheridan Township Hall.

Adjournment

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.