

**PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, March 18, 2009**

I. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call **Francis McNamara – present**
 Donald Hartwick – present
 Craig Landes – present
 John Maahs – present
 Ronald Overton – present
 Richard Turcotte – present
 Ulrika Zay – arrived at 7:12 pm
 Charles Openlander – present
 Beth Ball – absent w/notice

Also present – **Andrea Polverento**, Planning Director, **Deb Adams**, Township Supervisor, S.C.C.M.U.A. representative **Larry Fitzgerald**, Resident **Lyle Heaton**

II. Communications Received – None

III. Agenda Approval

MOTION by **LANDES** and seconded by **OPENLANDER** to approve the agenda as presented.

Passed unanimously

IV. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items - None

V. Approval of Minutes - None

VI. Public Hearings - None

VII. Unfinished Business - None

VIII. New Business

A. Discuss Master Plan Update

Polverento outlined the changes that had been made by the consultants, she went through a number of the modifications, she also noted that because the map was several pages ahead of where it was first mentioned in the text, a page number should be indicated with the figure number. She also noted that a minor typo changing “do” to “does” would be fixed.

Hartwick noted that the second paragraph under “Looking Glass River Corridor” on page 35 should be moved down a space.

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Polverento stated that she did not care for the word “place” in the first paragraph of the Wacousta Village section. **Zay** and **Turcotte** explained that the word place has a specific meaning, however it was suggested that the wording on the introductory sentences be changed to “Wacousta is situated at the crossroads of Wacousta and Herbison Roads, and is the Township’s historic settlement or hamlet. It is unincorporated, but commonly referred to as Wacousta Village.”

Turcotte noted that on page 38 and 44, under action items, where it states “Implement a Township wide signage program,” that it should be “plan” instead. He also said that instead of “Primary” roads, it should be “all” roads.

In the Implementation section on page 42, there was some discussion regarding the item “Develop an educational campaign to promote the Township’s sustainable development policy.” **Zay, Overton, McNamara** and **Turcotte** each explained what they felt the statement meant. It was discussed that their ideas were slightly different. **Adams** stated that she felt sustainability was quite a “buzzword” and that there was no good definition in the plan, so perhaps it should be struck. **Polverento** stated that she would discuss the conversation with the consultants and see if they could come up with something different.

Also on page 42, **Overton** suggested that there should be a change to state “Maintain an inventory of wetlands within the Township.”

It was noted that there was a typo on page 46. **Polverento** will make sure the consultants fix it.

The Planning Commission discussed the Future Land Use Map in detail. It was determined that they would like to see the low and medium density yellow colors be changed slightly, as they are hard to differentiate.

They would like to see a change the low density residential near the village gateway west of Wacousta along Grand River, the area under I69 to AG or RR.

Zay would like to see the graphic for the Looking Glass River Overlay changed because it is the same as other wetlands graphics.

There was discussion about the area by the Airport, it’s currently indicated as grey or industrial. They would maybe like some sort of Airport designation.

Overton asked **Polverento** to discuss that with the consultants.

IX. Committee and Staff Reports - None

X. Comments and Questions from Audience, Staff and Commissioners- None

XI. Adjournment

MOTION by **OVERTON** and seconded by **OPENLANDER** to adjourn the meeting.

Passed unanimously

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

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Date approved:

Ron Overton, Chair

John Maahs, Acting Secretary