Ishpeming Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes for January 08, 2018

(**Agenda items** are in **bold text**)

6:30 P.M. @ Ishpeming City Hall

**A. Call to Order** for the Ishpeming Planning Commission was by Acting Chairperson Bruce Houghton at 6:34 P.M.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Planning Commissioners Angelo Bosio, Larry Bussone, Bruce Houghton, Mike Tonkin, Diane Gauthier and Brooke Routhier.

Absent: Jim Bertucci as well as Gabe Seelen and Harry Weikel, whose absences were both excused in advance.

Public present: Mark Slown and Al Pierce, Zoning Administrator.

**C. Public Comment:** none

**D. Approval of Agenda and Election of Chairperson –** The Agenda was approved unanimously as presented upon a motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Larry Bussone. A motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Larry Bussone that Gabe Seelen continue as Chairperson also passed unanimously.

**E. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes –**The meeting minutes of December 04, 2017 were approved unanimously as presented upon a motion by Larry Bussone supported by Brooke Routhier.

**F. Presentations –** none.

**G. Public Hearings –** none.

**H. New Business**

**1. Review of City of Ishpeming Proposed 2018-2022 Five Year Recreation Plan**

Mark explained that in addition to the Planning Commissions review, the proposed plan would also undergo a 30 day Public Comment period and a Focus Group Session as the MDNR requires the Recreation Plan to be brought to multiple venues. He indicated that the biggest addition in this plan is Ishpeming Schools proposed athletic facilities. The existing deteriorating 7 Tennis Courts would be replaced by 8 new Tennis Courts in a slightly different configuration with more off-street parking. The existing trail in the area would be improved and an all sports Athletic Hall of Fame Trail constructed. Ishpeming Schools will also be conducting a fundraiser to assist with facility improvements. Additionally the Ishpeming City Council is supporting the purchase of a multi-purpose park (Ice skating, Roller skating, Skateboarding) in the downtown area. This may involve environmental investigation and probably obtaining an independent appraisal. A resolution of support from the Planning Commission would be beneficial to support the Grant request. The Planning Commission reviewed the 2018-2022 Recreation Plan.

A motion by Mike Tonkin supported by Diane Gauthier to support the Goals and Objectives of the Preliminary 2018-2022 Recreation Plan passed unanimously.

**2. PC review of: Proposed Revised Section 15.5 CBD Facades**

Al presented revisions and comments to this proposed addition to the CBD. Composite wood siding now can be utilized after Conditional Use approval by the Planning Commission. Placing buildings lot-line to lot-line requires side yard setback revisions in the CBD and fireproof sidewalls. He has checked several sites for Canvas Awnings for winter usage. All sites recommended taking the awnings down for the winter season. Prohibiting Pole Signs requires amending the Sign Ordinance. Mike expressed favorable sentiments towards retaining Pole Signs, but building placement on the lot lines would require a variance to place them in the Right-of-Ways. Brooke asked Mark to expand upon his vision for the CBD. Mark stated that the goal is to establish a period look with classic materials and attention to architectural details. The “period” experience will create continuity and add a historical aspect to renovations. Done properly, it can become a destination spot for shopping and dining.

Brooke Routhier made a motion supported by Larry Bussone, that Section 15.5, as amended, be added to the Zoning Ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Proposed 2018 Planning Commission Meeting Schedule**

The 2018 meeting schedule is proposed to continue meeting on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 P.M. If the date is impacted by a holiday, the meeting will shift to the second Monday. The 2018 dates are Jan. 08, Feb. 05, Mar. 05, Apr.02, May 07, June 04, July 09, Aug. 06, Sept 10, Oct. 01, Nov. 05, Dec. 03 and Jan. 07, 2019. As usual, if there is no pressing business the July meeting will be cancelled..

Angelo Bosio made a motion supported by Diane Gauthier to accept the dates as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Iron Ore Heritage Trail (IOHT) Five Year Plan 2018-2022**

The Planning Commission reviewed the Plan, especially the Goals on pages 11-14 and the Action Plan on page 15. Several comments were made regarding the usage of the trail and the proposed lighting of the trail between Ishpeming and Negaunee.

Upon a motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Larry Bussone, Commissioners unanimously supported the six (6) listed Goals and Objectives as well as the Action Plan. Al will inform IOHT of the Planning Commissions actions with a letter of support.

**5. Informational Mining Journal Article on Zoning Changes in Marquette Township**

A clipping from the December 27, 2017 Mining Journal was included in the packet. Of interest to commissioners was the information on tiny homes, 450 square feet or less. Brooke asked that this be placed on a future agenda for discussion and potential inclusion into the zoning ordinance. Al expressed interest in the definitions for shipping containers as they have caused some problems in Ishpeming. At some point they will be added to a future agenda.

**I. Old Business**

**1. Revised Zoning Ordinance Sections sent to CUPPAD**

A self-explanatory update of progress to date. As of December 11, 2017 the entire revised ordinance has been furnished to CUPPAD.

**2. Zoning Ordinance Sub-Committee Review**

Next meeting is planned for January 31, 2018 at 4:00 P.M.

**J. Correspondence**

**1. Planning Commission Annual Report Template**

Al has filled out the forms for an initial Planning Commission Annual Report. Since it is not yet typed, he verbally informed Commissioners of the contents and will provide a copy of the report for the next meeting.

**K. Meeting Adjournment** was unanimous upon a motion by Angelo Bosio supported by Larry Bussone at

7:45 P.M.

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Alan K. Pierce, Zoning Administrator