

Antrim County
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Richard Hoadley
Sandra Hoinka

Jim Ferguson
Jill Barnard
Stan Moore
Mike Crawford

MINUTES
March 6, 2001
Antrim County Board of Commissioners Room

Members Present: Jack Norris, Jim Ferguson, Arlen Turner, Laura Stanek, Sandra Hoinka, Jill Barnard, Richard Hoadley, Mike Crawford
Members Absent: Diane Bromelmeier
Staff Present: Peter Garwood, Joel Dye
Others Present: Russell Turk, Larry Lavelly and a woman with Larry.

1. **Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Arlen Turner.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by Arlen Turner, supported by Laura Stanek to approve the February 6, 2001 Minutes with the following corrections:

- **remove Steve Roote from the membership list**
- **in the 2nd paragraph under “New Business add the word “they” in place of the work “the”. Motion Carried - Unanimous**

3. **Public Comment:**

None.

4. **Wetlands Ordinance Update:**

The Commission was updated on the status of the Wetland Ordinance. Currently the ordinance is being reviewed by local units of government as well as by the Board of Commissioners level.

There have been seven new permits application received by the DEQ. The Coordinator/Planner Office will contact the Soil Erosion Officer to review the applications and look for any red flags.

Mike Crawford had some questions to bring himself up to date about who wrote the Ordinance and some conflict of interests in response to some letters against the wetlands ordinance against the Planning Commission. Joel suggested that our Chair, Mr. Turner, take the lead with Jack and Jim on responding. Laura responded that the misinformation that is

circulating is brought on by the consultants (they are putting a twist on things for their own interest).

5. Master Plan Update:

Joel handed out applications for a workshop we are presenting “The Role of County Planning Workshop” on Monday, 16 April 2001 at 3:00 p.m. at Camp Hayo-Went-Ha. It would be advisable for each of us to attend and encourage the Board of Commissioners that it is a Must for attendance. Cathy Cunningham of Coastal Management Program informed the County that they award grants to help with writing county plans. The Coordinator/Planner Office will be submitting a grant proposal to CMP this month. Discussion followed in regard to townships using the county’s opinion survey for their own Master Plan.

6. Staff Analysis:

- Torch Lake Larry Lavelly (present) “Reasons for the County Planning Commission to recommended approval of the request for re-zoning from agriculture to PRD”. Jack saw a notice in the paper that the Planning Commission will approve the same day as the special meeting IF the special meeting approves (which is NOT what we are dealing with here). There is also a request by the same people to build condos on their present golf course (Agaming). Joel asked Lavelly if there was a new survey we could get a copy of? “YES”. Lavelly comments: He and partner, Mike Brown came up here 5 years ago to purchase Agaming with understanding of acquiring this property from same previous owner whose dream it is to see it also as golf course. He is 85 years old now and no longer has any interest in continuing farming the cherry farm there now and has already designed the 2nd 18 holes for Agaming.

Jim Ferguson moved to recommend approval with following conditions: Torch Lake Twp. Needs to write an amendment to the 1994 Future Land Use Plan. Mike Crawford supported.. Motion Carried - Unanimous

- Elk Rapids Township Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments:
Joel: the first four items have had action by the Planning Commission previously.
Discussion followed in regard to the amendments.

Motion by Laura Stanek, supported by Jack Norris to recommend that Elk Rapids approve the following five (5) amendments with the following concerns

- All changes recommended under the Staff Analysis
- **Change:** under ADD Section 11.05 – Uses Permitted by Special Use Permit, replace ‘by the application to the Planning Commission for’ with ‘after’.
- **Under A same section:** Open Space Storage – remove ‘ed’ off maintained wooded or masonry wall.
- **Under B section 17.01:** on top of page 2. Structure is capitalized where it does not need to be.

Motion Carried - Unanimously

7. Proposed Coordinated Planning Act:

Joel Dye & Pete Garwood attended a meeting in February where the Coordinated Planning Act was presented. Joel Dye distributed information summarizing the Act. Joel Dye asked the Commission to look over the information and get comments back to him by next month's meeting.

8. Regional Planning Report:

- Working on US 131 corridor. Put off until summer.
- A workshop is next Friday focusing small community airports and surrounding areas.

9. Old Business

Viet Echo Twp. property. Permit was submitted for electrical meter on storage building (built with no permit). This is a township problem.

The Viet property on Intermediate: DEQ renewed the permit we objected to, but they cannot proceed on that until the court gives permission.

10. New Business

None.

11. Communications:

- Watershed Planning for local governments being offered 31 March. Jack Norris will go.
- Bromelmeier will submit her resignation. We will ask Board of Commissioners to replace her position with someone from the Road Commission.
- Doc Hoadley's term will be up in June or July. He will not look for reappointment. We will ask the Board of Commissioners to replace this position with a professional (hopefully from Elk Rapids side of the County).

12. ADJOURNED by Chairman Turner at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill S. Barnard

County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Richard Hoadley
Sandra Hoinka

Mike Crawford
Jim Ferguson
Jill Barnard
Stan Moore

Minutes

April 3, 2001, 7:00 P.M.

Antrim County Board of Commissioners Room

Members Present: Arlen Tuner, Jim Ferguson, Jill Barnard, Richard Hoadley, Sandra Hoinka, Laura Stanek, Stan Moore, Jack Norris, Diane Bromelmeier, Mike Crawford

Staff Present: Peter Garwood, Joel Dye

Others Present: Brad Jenson

1. **Call to Order:**
Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Arlen Turner.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
Motion by Jack Norris supported by Mike Crawford to approve the March 6, 2001 Minutes. Motion Carried Unanimous.
3. **Public Comment-** None Recieved
4. **Wetlands Ordinance Update**
Contacted by Laura Silagy of DEQ, the DEQ will be holding a meeting in May (14, 15, OR 16) to clarify and inform the public what the DEQ has jurisdiction over. She is sending correspondence to all townships. Stan Moore suggested NOT 15th since there is a meeting for oil and gas in East Jordan.
5. **REVIEW OF WETLAND PERMITS TO DEQ:**
 - a. Property owner asked for permission to fill for a 35 X 26 ft. garage on 45 sq. ft. House is already there (in Kewadin) and would be between the garage and the lake.

b. 300 ft. driveway using 300 cu. yds. fill just north of Barnes Park in Eastport.

6. **MASTER PLAN UPDATE:**

Surveys will be mailed next month and Wade Trim will interpret them for us in June and July. County Workshop 16 April – only 3 County Commissioners are signed so far. We took account of all comments made about survey and feel we have a comprehensive, well-rounded survey. Ferguson: need a lot of media attention. Antrim County News sounds interested. Ferguson: Keith at Record Eagle. Surveys will cost \$1000.00, Joel ordered more county Directories as thank yous for those who fill out the survey, Joel also ordered large envelopes \$850.00 plus Wade Trim's costs equal \$7162. Price is based on 1500 copies and we expect about 400 replies.

7. **REGIONAL PLANNING REPORT:**

Nothing to discuss.

8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Watershed meeting for last Sat. (March 31) was cancelled for lack of attendance. Jack Norris asked for the information handouts be sent to him when they called to cancel.

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. DEQ is proposing 2 types of permits: Permit By Rule those who live on Great Lakes would be allowed to mow or groom. The other is a General Permit would allow them to fill 300 cu. yards!

Motion by Arlen Turner. The Antrim County Planning Commission opposes any movement of soil or materials on the state-owned bottomlands. Mike Crawford support. Passed Unanimous.

Planning Commission came to consensus to have office write a letter saying so.

b. Draft Coordinated Planning Act: bring suggestions next month. Rural communities do not have staff or funding to write their own planning, this will create laws to allow them to work together with joint townships and will open up communications.

ADJOURNED AT 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Barnard

County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Richard Hoadley
Sandra Hoinka

Mike Crawford
Jim Ferguson
Jill Barnard
Stan Moore

Minutes
May 1, 2001, 7:00 P.M.
Antrim County Building Room 203 - B

Members Present: Arlen Tuner, Jim Ferguson, Jill Barnard, Sandra Hoinka, Laura Stanek, Jack Norris and Diane Bromelmeier

Members Absent: Mike Crawford and Richard Hoadey

Staff Present: Peter Garwood, Joel Dye

Others Present: None

- 1. Call to Order:**
Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
Motion by Laura Stanek, supported by Jack Norris to approve the April 3, 2001 minutes with the following changes:
Correct the spelling of Arlen Turner and Lori Silagy
Motion Carried – Unanimous.
- 3. Membership Issues**
Jill Barnard updated the commission that there is a vacancy on the commission. The Coordinator/Planner Office is in the process of receiving letters of interest
- 4. Public Comment**
None

5. Staff Analysis

Milton Township Zoning Amendment:

Joel Dye updated the Commission on the amendment to the Milton Township Zoning Ordinance. After much discussion the following motion was made.

MOTION BY JIM FERGUSON , SUPPORTED BY LAURA STANEK TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE MILTON TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS.

- under definitions, family definition the township should be consistent with the state building code to limit the amount of non-related individuals.
- under definitions, add the word principle use with a definition.
- under definitions, strike the term ZBA, for it is not used in the ordinance and replace it with Zoning Board of Appeals.
- under definitions, shoreline definition, use correct agencies when referring to the "ordinary high water mark" (attached) this includes Circuit Court for inland Lakes and Streams and the Great Lakes International Datum for Lake Michigan (attached).
- under definitions, please define special use.
- on page 2-4, under the Dimensional Restrictions for Accessory Structures strike the information in parentheses, this is confusing.
- verify all height restrictions are consistent with state building codes

Motion Carried – Unanimous

Kearney Township Zoning Map Amendment, and Zoning Map Approval:

Joel Dye updated the Commission that Kearney Township inadvertently passed and ordinance rezoning 77.5 acres m/l. The township also would like the Commission to take action on the new Zoning Map.

Motion by Jack Norris, supported by Laura Stanek, we recommend approval of the zoning map amendment, as well as recommend approval of the proposed new zoning map. Motion Carried - Unanimous

6. Wetlands Ordinance Update

Pete: We will have a forum with 6 different people: an individual from Meridian Twp., Doug Fuller, Tip of Mitt, Chris Grobel, MSU Extension, Janet Person, Pete Garwood and Laurie Stanek plus a person moderator (John Amerheim). The forum is set for May 29th at Senior Center 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Pete: Board of Commissioners also wish to have a special public hearing in late June.

7. Wetland Permits

Joel reviewed the permit applications sent to the DEQ. The Planning Commission requested the Coordinator/Planner Office to request the several of the actual permits.

8. Master Plan Update

The Commission briefly discussed the workshop held at Camp Hayo-Went-Ha in April focusing on County Planning.

Joel asked the Chairman to appoint a Master Plan Working Committee to oversee the development of a formalized work plan to develop the Master Plan. Arlen appointed Pepper Bromemeier, and Sandra Hoinka. Joel will set up a meeting for the third week during the daytime.

9. Regional Planning Report

Currently working on US131 corridor study, from Kalkaska to Petoskey. Joel asked the Commission to make a recommendation on whether or not the study should address the uniqueness of the region. Ferguson doesn't feel this commission should make recommendations because we need input from the townships that border that section of highway. Discussion followed.

Motion by Jack Norris, supported by Laura Stanek that the language adopted should be specific to uniqueness of area. Motion Carried - Unanimous.

Joel updated the Commission that there is a regional farmland preservation meeting in May for staff.

10. Old Business

Jack Norris will be sending out material in regard to the watershed planning.

11. New Business

Joel mentioned that all Commission members have received a copy of the County Ordinance creating a Planning Commission and the By Laws to govern the Commission. Joel asked that all Commission members review the ordinance and by laws and bring any concerns or discussions to the next meeting.

12. Communications

None

13. Member Comment

The Chairman informed the Commission that mileage to the Planning Workshop will be paid accordingly, and that Commission members should mark it down on their expense sheets.

Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill S. Barnard

County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Richard Hoadley
Sandra Hoinka

Mike Crawford
Jim Ferguson
Jill Barnard
Stan Moore

Minutes

June 5, 2001, 7:00 P.M.
Antrim County Building Room 203 - B

Members Present: Arlen Tuner, Jill Barnard, Sandra Hoinka, Jack Norris, Mike Crawford, and Richard Hoadley.

Members Absent: Laura Stanek, Diane Bromelmeier, and Jim Ferguson.

Staff Present: Peter Garwood, Joel Dye

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- under item number seven: In the second sentence, remove the word the word "the" before the word "several", and add the word "copies" after the word "several".

Motion by Jack Norris, supported by Sandra Hoinka to accept the minutes with the above correction. Motion Carried - Unanimous

3. Public Comment

None

4. Staff Analysis

Joel Dye informed the Commission that Milton Township submitted a new Zoning Map for our review and recommendation. Discussion followed in regard to the maps and findings of fact presented to the Planning Commission. Norris had concerns of the land being taken out of environmental and zone it village. The property was identified as having wetlands.

Motion by Jack Norris, supported by Arlen Turner, that the township reconsider the removal of 4 parcels from environmental to village. We recommend they be left in environmental. Consider extending the village in a

more logical northerly direction. Motion Carried by yea and no vote as follows - Yea: Norris, Turner, Hoinka, Barnard. No: Crawford

5. Wetlands Ordinance Update

The Forum went well. Steve Voice still had some concerns which Pete Garwood asked for in writing. Non-contiguous wetlands are not governed by the DEQ. Education needs are evident frequently. Discussion followed in regard to the County Wetland Ordinance and how it will work with the DEQ. Mr. Garwood will take our opinions to the County Commissioners.

6. Wetland Permits

There is now a charge for copies of the wetlands permit requests. Mr. Dye suggested we do not renew our subscription as he can get more information on the permits over the internet.

8. Master Plan Update

The Working Committee met last month and made a few changes on the opinion survey. Laura Stanek and Pepper Bromelmeier helped Joel stuff and stamp 1196 envelopes. Mr. Dye updated the Commission on the process of developing the address list and surveys.

9. Regional Planning Report

- Mr. Dye informed the commission that the US-131 corridor study will be completed this fall.
- Mr. Dye informed the Commission that Kearney Twp. asked the planning Department to come talk in July about the County planning process.

10. Old Business

- Coordinated Planning Act: The Commission requested Mr. Dye to collect more information about the Act and distribute it their packets next month.
- County Planning Ordinance: The Commission requested the Planning Department to review the current ordinance and bring recommendations to the Planning Commission in the near future.

11. Communications

None

12. Member Comment

Crawford has many constituents that are objecting to the wetlands ordinance. He feels that we need to find a better way to get the public's opinions. He also mentioned a resolution with the DEQ sounds like a good idea.

Adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill S. Barnard

County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Jill Barnard

Mike Crawford
Jim Ferguson
Stan Moore

Minutes
July 10, 2001, 8:00 a.m.
Antrim County Building Room 206

Members Present: Arlen Tuner, Jill Barnard, Jack Norris, Mike Crawford, and Laura Stanek
Members Absent: Jim Ferguson.
Advisory Present: Stan Moore
Staff Present: Peter Garwood and Joel Dye
Others Present: None

- 1. Call to Order:**
Meeting called to order at 8:05 a.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
Motion by Laura Stanek, supported by Jack Norris to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried – unanimous.
- 3. Public Comment – None.**

- 4. Helena Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments**
The Committee discussed at length the Helena Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments. The amendments included:
 - Adding new definitions
 - Amending current definitions
 - Replacing the word “yard” with the word “setback” for legal clarification.

In regard to the new definitions, the Commission came to a consensus to recommend replacing the following definitions; below are the recommended changes:

Farm – Land operated as a single unit by the owner-operator, manager, or tenant-farmer by his won labor or with the assistance of members of his household or employees hired for the purpose of raising and harvesting trees, fruit or field crops, or animal husbandry for economic gain.

Lot, Through – A lot having a pair of opposite lot lines along two more or less parallel public streets and which is not a corner lot.

Principal Building – A building on the lot providing or enabling the principal use of the premises.

In regard to the Section 8.04 B.2., the Commission came to a consensus to recommend replacing the word smallest with the word smaller

In regard to the Section 1204 D., the Commission came to a consensus to recommend adding the words, "so as to screen sight and sound" after, the term "landscaped". This recommendation is submitted on the assumption that the aim of a landscaped commercial rear setback is to screen non-conforming uses from unwanted sights and sounds.

Motion by Laura Stanek, supported by Mike Crawford to approve the Helena Township Zoning Ordinance amendments with comments and recommendations. Motion carried – unanimous.

5. Milton Township Zoning Map Amendment

Discussion took place regarding the Milton Township Zoning Map amendment. The Commission discussed at length the layout of the proposed development, and the need for deed restrictions on the property, to preserve the open space from future development. The Commission also discussed whether or not if this is an actual overlay as stated as a PUD Overlay. A overlay means that the existing zoning remains.

Motion by Jill Barnard, supported by Laura Stanek to recommend approval of the Milton Township Zoning Map amendment with recommended suggestions. Motion carried – Yes: Barnard, Stanek, Norris, Turner; No: Crawford.

6. Member Comments

- Correspondence from the Rural Development Council of Michigan
- Milton Township will be hosting a Land Use Workshop at the Milton Township Hall. RSVP to Chris Weinzapfel.

Next meeting – August 7.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Barnard, Secretary

County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman

Laura Stanek
Diane Bromelmeier
Jill Barnard

Mike Crawford
Jim Ferguson
Stan Moore

Minutes
September 4, 2001, 7:00 p.m.
Antrim County Building Room 206

Members Present: Arlen Tuner, Jill Barnard, Jack Norris, Thomas Maleck, Robert Sanders
Mike Crawford, and Jim Ferguson

Members Absent: Valerie Reher and Laura Stanek

Advisory Present: Stan Moore

Staff Present: Peter Garwood and Joel Dye

Others Present: None

1. **Call to Order:**
Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Introduction of Members**
Due to new members, introductions were held around the table.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion by Jack Norris, supported by Jill Barnard to accept the minutes with approved changes:
 - item 4 – under "farm" change word won to own.
 - item 4 – last paragraph – last sentence – strike the words " not conforming uses from" and add the word "out" after screen.
 - item 5 – next to last sentence – strike the word "if" after " not".**Motion carried – unanimous.**
4. **Elk Rapids Golf Club PA 116 Staff Analysis**
The Commission was updated on the application from the Elk Rapids Golf Club to the Village of Elk Rapids for PA 116 Local Open Space Easement. The commission discussed the intent of the legislation of PA116. The commission also discussed the affected localities that would lose tax revenue if this application would be approved. The commission came to an assumption that the only affected unit of government will be the Village of Elk Rapids. The commission also discussed reasons why the village may want to approve this application, such

as the preservation of this land as open is worth more than the tax loss they will occur.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Thomas Maleck to recommend to the Village of Elk Rapids to approve the application contingent the Village is the only affected locality, and they are fully aware of the ramifications of this action. Motion Carried – Unanimous.

5. Wetland Ordinance Update

Joel Dye and Pete Garwood updated the Commission in regard to the upcoming Wetland Ordinance Public Hearing.

6. Master Plan Update

Joel Dye updated the Commission that the raw data from the opinion survey is available, and the consultant will be at the next meeting to discuss the results. Joel informed the Commission that Peggy Hamminga went above the call of duty in assuring that 500 of the 1196 survey were delivered.

Motion by Jill Banard, supported by Arlen Turner, to direct the Coordinator/Planner Office to develop a certificate recognizing Peggy for an excellent job.

Pete Garwood informed the Commission that the grant to the Coastal Management Program, which will pay for a Land Use Study, is waiting for approval at the top level in the DEQ then NOAA will have to approve it after that. The Commission discussed the Master Plan Sub-Committee and the need for the Committee to meet on a more regular basis. The commission decided to meet at 3:00 p.m. on the third Friday of each month. Arlen Turner reaffirmed that the membership of the sub-committee shall consist of Jim Ferguson, Thomas Malek, Stan Moore and Pepper Bromelmeier.

7. Ordinance creating the Planning Commission

The Commission discussed the draft ordinance creating the Antrim County Planning Commission. The committee discussed in detail the segments of the county that should be representative on the Planning Commission. The Commission came to a consensus to have the following five areas represented on the Antrim County Planning Commission: Conservation/Agriculture, Recreation/Tourism, Transportation, Business/Industry, and Education/Government.

Motion by Mike Crawford, supported by Jack Norris to approve the ordinance and recommend to the Board of Commissioners to approve the ordinance creating the Antrim County Planning Commission. Motion Carried – Unanimous.

8. Member Comment

Mike Crawford informed the Commission that on 8/7/1 there was a special on PBS looking at land use planning in Michigan compared with other states in the United States. Mike mentioned that he requested a copy and would like the Planning Commission to review it as a group later in the year.

Robert Sanders asked questions regarding the digital information available to the County. Discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**County of Antrim
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Arlen Turner, Chairman
Jack Norris, Vice-Chairman
Jill Barnard, Secretary

Mike Crawford	Jim Ferguson
Tom Malek	Robert Sanders
Laura Stanek	Marshall Wright

Minutes

December 6, 2001, 7:00 PM
Antrim County Building Room 206

Members Present: Arlen Turner, Jack Norris, Mike Crawford, Jim Ferguson, Tom Malek, and Marshall Wright

Members Absent: Robert Sanders, Laura Stanek, and Jill Barnard

Advisory Present: Pepper Bromelmeier, Stan Moore

Staff Present: Pete Garwood, Howard Yamaguchi

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order:

Arlen Turner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Introduction of Members

Due to new members, introductions were held around the table.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Arlen Turner, supported by Jack Norris, to accept the minutes of the previous meeting without any changes: motion carried – unanimous.

4. Citizen Opinion Survey

Pete Garwood updated the Council on the status of the Citizen Opinion Survey. Wade-Trim (consultants) delivered the draft final report in mid-November. Minor editorial changes by staff and planning subcommittee members are currently being incorporated into the report by the consultants.

5. Land Use Mapping

Pete reminded the meeting that the grant amount available for the land use mapping activity is \$25,000. Available land use maps from recent studies on the Jordan River Basin and from coastal studies by the Army Corps appear to be suitable for supplementing the upcoming land use mapping to be undertaken by the Planning Council for the Master Plan.

The RFP process for starting the mapping work will take place over the coming two months (need Commission members on selection committee with BOC approval) . Howard Yamaguchi presented a preliminary time line for the Phase I activities of the Master Plan. Some discussion ensued on the feasibility of the timing of contracting this work with Universities, as well as on the feasibility of directly hiring students for the task, under the supervision of the Coordinator/Planner office. **A Master Plan Subcommittee meeting will be held on Thursday, December 20, at 2 p.m.** to discuss the timing of the various components of the study (see next item).

6. Land Use Forum

Stan Moore briefed the meeting on the proposed Land Use Forum. Originally conceived as a forum on land use issues in the county, it made sense to fold it into the county Master Planning process as a purely info gathering process, sharing with the public the results of the land use mapping activity. The general public and a wide group of interest groups are slated for invitation to participate in the process. This activity would then lead to a public visioning process that would contribute towards formulating the county Master Plan. MSU will provide land-use specialists and facilitators to help design and implement the activity. Pete noted that a summer forum would be ideal, given the need to include part-year residents in the process. The current proposed timeline suggests that this may be difficult. Stan suggested firming up the timeline and working out a feasible timetable for the forum.

7. Wetlands Protection Ordinance

Pete Garwood updated the Commission on the status of the Wetlands Protection Ordinance. The ordinance is currently under revision by the county prosecutor's office, and will be in the Board of Commissioner's packet for possible action in the December 13, 2001 meeting. It current round of revisions includes eliminating the "floristic quality index." Responding to a question by Pepper Bromelmeier, Pete noted that the Stormwater and Soil Erosion Ordinance is also at the prosecutor's office, pending resolution of issues such as an appeals process, compliance bureau for administering fines, and exemptions from the ordinance.

8. Communication and Other Business

Jack Norris reiterated the appreciation of the Planning Commission for Peggy Hamminga's work on the Opinion Survey. Other items discussed include the relocation of Second Chance to Alabama and the consequences to industrial sewing in the County.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.