



TOWAMENSING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

2009 MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 11th, 2009, **Time:** 7 PM, **Place:** Township Municipal Building

Members Present: Chair Connie Bieling, Vice Chair Guy Seifert, Board Members, Russ Frank, George White, Roy Christman, and Christine Meinhart.

Secretary, Jeremy Barbosa, **and Solicitor** Jenny Cheng.

Excused: Board Members, Gary Bruch.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag	None	The Planning Commission began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
	The Board reorganization occurred tonight and to complete the process Christine Meinhart was nominated as temporary chair.	A motion was made by Roy Christman to nominate Connie as chair and Guy Siefert seconded the motion. A.I.F. The chair was given back to Connie Bieling and nominations for Vice Chair were taken. Russ Frank nominated Guy Siefert and that motion was seconded by Christine Meinhart. A.I.F. Nomination for Jeremy Barbosa to remain as Secretary, was made by Guy Siefert, and seconded by Roy Christman, A.I.F.
Announcement	Board Chair Connie Bieling welcomed new Solicitor Jenny Cheng to the board and formally introduces her to the board.	None
Approval of the Minutes: Approval of December 14, 2009 Towamensing Township Planning Commission minutes.	None	Motion made by Roy Christman to approve the minutes from November 9, 2009, and seconded by George White. A.I.F.
Public Participation	None	

L&W Investors	Mr. Beers presented the revised plans for the lot lines for this subdivision. On December 14th meeting.	On December 14 th , Guy Seifert made a motion to conditionally approve the revised plans as drawn, and seconded by Russ Frank, AIF, Roy Christman abstained. The board this evening signed all the plans and the mylar. Plans were signed by Board members Guy Seifert, Christine Meinhart, and Chair Connie Bieling.
New Business:	None at this time	
Discussion:	Tonight Christine Meinhart discussed her new role as Township Zoning Officer and how at each meeting she will give an update to the Planning Commission on Zoning issues. Christine then gave an update to the Michaels plans and their request for a building permit. Christine then spoke about the septic issues on this subdivision and trying to find a solution to the matter. Then Guy Seifert asked Attorney Cheng about the 90 day window for these plans and what if anything the board needs to do now with these plans. Ms. Cheng felt that the window period is not a planning commission issue anymore, and is now between the supervisors and the developer. She will however research the issue further.	The board asked to have the Secretary check with the Supervisors to see the status of these plans, so the board can see what if any action is needed.
	Board member Rusty Frank suggested on all new plans coming before the board that the members should tour the sites so they are better able to understand in person what is presented to them on paper. Ms. Cheng suggested that a request to the owner could be placed on the subdivision application to make an appointment allowing the board as a group to view the property.	None.

	Board member Roy Christman updated the board on the Regional Plan for the area. He brought a rough draft for the other municipalities to look over, make changes and approve in the future. Mr. Christman then spoke about a regional planning board with representatives from each Municipality to discuss regional matters.	None.
	Mr. Christman asked that if the Supervisors could set up a workshop for the Supervisors and Planning Commission to hear a presentation from a hydrologist. He feels that this might help the township better manage water resources. The board then debated on ways to monitor water usage/conservation for the Township	Motion was made by Roy Christman to request the Supervisors set up a workshop for a presentation by a hydrologist. The motion was seconded by Rusty Frank, A.I.F.
	Mr. Christman then gave an update on the Pohopoco property that the township engineer was requested to inspect. The engineer reported that the work is being completed according to the plans presented to the township, and in fact less dirt was being moved than originally planned.	None.
	Since there have been no new plans recently, and the next planning commission meeting is expected to be brief, the board formally invited the Supervisors to schedule a workshop after the planning meeting, that same evening, February 8 th to complete tasks that were started in previous workshops.	Motion was made by Christine Meinhart to formally invite Supervisors to next meeting to complete the SALDO check list after the official meeting of the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Guy Seifert, A.I.F.
	Board Chair Connie Bieling announced that the township was planning to have a newsletter. The supervisors have appointed Roy Christman to develop it. She and Tom Newman will help. She asked if any Planning Commission members would also be willing to help. There was discussion on what kind of	None.

	information the newsletter should contain, how often it would offered, etc.	
	Board Chair Connie Bieling gave out information and took signups for those interested in attending the Community Economic Development conference on Zoning Issues in Wilkes Barre Tuesday March 23 rd . Members Guy Seifert, Roy Christman, Rusty Frank and Chair Connie Bieling will be requesting permission from Supervisors to attend at their own expense, at no cost to the Township.	
Adjournment	None	Motion made by Roy Christman to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Guy Seifert. A.I.F. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.