

SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

June 9, 2008

The Saugatuck Township Planning Commission held a workshop on June 9, 2008, at the township hall on Blue Star Highway, Saugatuck, Michigan 49453.

Present: Edris, Hanson, Milauckas, Rausch and Rowe
Absent: Darpel, Jarzembowski
Also present: Planner Sisson

At 4:05 P.M. Chairman Hanson called the meeting to order. There being no public comment, Hanson called on Rowe to brief the Commission on the wash-out problems on Lakeshore Drive created by the recent heavy rains. Possible alternative routes were discussed, and Hanson said he would write to Bill Nelson of the Allegan County Road Commission and invite him to the next Planning Commission meeting to discuss solutions. Sisson suggested the Master Plan would have to be amended in order to prepare for government help in creating a new route. He added that the Road Commission is not supposed to go ahead and create a road without input from the Planning Commission. Hanson said a “sub-area plan” for the lakeshore can be added to the Master Plan for an alternative access route.

Hanson directed the Commission to the proposed Water Access and Dock Density Regulations and brought Rausch up to date. Two new definitions on page 1 were explained, and it was decided to change the second one to read “Access Envelope Relative to Vessel Regulations” to make it more readily understandable.

Sisson explained that Sec. 908 was adjusted to fit with other new access provisions so that every unit that has access to the water has the option of having a boat slip.

Sec. 909 (d) was changed in the fourth line to read “access envelope that extends over the water, the sides of which are formed by lines extending from the subject property corners at the water’s edge. . .”

Sec. 910 title was amended to read “Waterfront (a.k.a. Lake and Riparian) Access Property, Limitations and Regulations for Developed Residential Lots.” Subsection 2. a. was amended to read “There shall be not more than one designated access area on the lot or parcel, and it shall be commensurate with the length of the water frontage.” Subsection 2.b. was eliminated and c. became b. Sisson explained that the resulting subsection b. limits the number of units permitted to share the waterfront of a residential lot. If the resident has a large parcel and wants to allow more units to access the water through it, he must create a “keyhole” easement which is regulated by the chart on page 5 in the next section, formerly Subsection (b) of 910, now designated as Sec. 911 (a).

Hanson stated that the Laketown Township Blue Star Highway Sub-Area Master Plan has been sent to each Commissioner by e-mail and asked if one or two of the Commissioners

would read it and comment on it at the next meeting. Edris volunteered. Hanson said it was important because the rules of use should be coordinated for Blue Star on either side of Exit 41

In order to finish work on Water Access and Dock Density Regulations, it was decided to meet at 6:00 P.M. June 23.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 P.M. The next regular meeting is June 23 at 6:00 P.M.

Betty A. White, Recording Secretary

Sandra Rausch, Secretary