

# **Birch Run Township Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**

## **Meeting Dec Dec 15, 2014**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Bill Nelson

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioners Present: CJ Norris, Fred Sheridan, Steve Schaar, Helen Morse, Elaine Parlberg, Mike Marr, Bill Nelson

Mike Marr made a motion to approve September 15, 2014 minutes as amended, Sheridan second – approved by all

**Public Hearing:** None scheduled

**Old Business:** Tabled

**Open Discussion:** Member in the audience, R Trinklein, brought forth a request to approve the application of a special use permit, regulations in accordance to article 14.15. An existing artificial pond was being cleaned out and work was ceased after a complaint was received. Trinklein stated, he would like to expand an existing pond over an area that floods in the spring. Discussion followed between board and Trinklein describing several incomplete drawings he had sketched out. Board did not make a decision due to fact there was no time to preview material before the meeting and the drawings were incomplete.

Planning Commission Member CJ Norris will bring forth to the next meeting Birch Run Village ordinance for the board to take a look at Outdoor Entertainment Ordinance.

**Township Board Representative:** Sheridan reported “ BR Township is asking the Planning Commission to look into the approval process, in response, to a request the permits to be more cost effective. Planning Commission will be looking into a

tiered process, including dollar amount and square footage, without adding the cost of Land Plan into the process. Township is also recommending Mike S. to taking a more active role in the approval process.

Sheridan stated in regards to “Outdoor entertainment “ Any outdoor area to cease serving at 11:00 pm or to start a new process of adopting a change to the ordinance. “

**Zoning Board Report:** Parlberg reported “ There was a problem with officer elections being held due to the fact, two of the board members were turning in their resignation immediately following the meeting. Chairman position was the only office voted upon at meeting prior to adjournment. The remaining officers will be elected at the next meeting when there is a complete board.

**New Business:**

Setting public dates: none

A preliminary site plan extension was requested by William Miller for Wilderness Trails Zoo. Miller stated he would like more time to complete the final site plan before presenting to the Planning Commission. Discussion followed with Miller and Planning Commission as to the time needed and the extenuating circumstances. Board Commissioner Mike Marr made a motion to extend a period of time to end Dec 15, 2015 for Wilderness Trails William Miller to present to the Planning Commission Board per Section c article 1 section 4-2 . Sheridan seconded the motion. All approved by Board.

**Announcements:** Welcome extended by Bill Nelson to Mike Marr as new member of the Board of Commissioners

Motion by Mike Marr to adjourn meeting, seconded by Fred Sheridan.

Approved by all.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

*Respectfully submitted by,*

*Elaine Parlberg Dec 15, 2014*