

The meeting of the Highland Township Planning Commission took place on February 1, 2016 with the following in attendance: March Walsh, Bo Alexander, Dr. John Fisher, Dave Herr, K C Kulp, Judy Noyales, Dean Davis and Bill Beers.

The minutes of the December meeting were reviewed. K C motioned to accept the minutes as written, Bo seconded, the minutes were approved as written.

The meeting started with open nominations for Chairperson, Bo nominated Judy Noyales, Dean seconded. Judy mentioned that she would like to pass the baton on to someone new. The previous nominations were rescinded. March nominated KC Kulp, Judy seconded, all were in favor. Dean Davis nominated Judy as Vice-chair, March 2nd, all were in favor. Don Mancini will remain Solicitor and Barb Davis will remain Secretary.

New business – Chris King’s development plan was reviewed. The NPDES permit is currently in process. The Board of Supervisors approved at their December meeting that the barn could be worked on over the winter. There are waivers requested, the township has no problem with the waivers. A riparian buffer will be required, and a financial security agreement will be needed. There are 8 inaccuracies in BMP details which will need to be corrected.

The approval of the Plan can be conditional upon receipt of the NPDES permit and necessary corrections as indicated. Judy Noyales pointed out that Solicitor Mancini has no issues with the plan. Bo motioned to approve the plan on the condition of receipt of the NPDES permit and the preparation of a financial security agreement. Dr. Fisher seconded, all were in favor, Motion approved.

Old business – Bill mentioned that perhaps a survey should be required when logging near property lines. KC asked if we have a limit on the number or percentage of trees that can be logged, or the size/diameter. It is considered agriculture, so we can not really control that. Dean asked about a minimum “buffer” zone to adjoining properties. We have no such limitations. The committee would like to request an addition to the zoning ordinance stating that a survey be required to timber harvest to avoid trespassing on an adjacent property. Bo motioned, Dave Herr seconded, all were in favor.

Dave Herr motioned to adjourn, Bo seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Davis, secretary