

Watertown Township
Planning commission
Regular Meeting
March 15, 2018

Members Present: Mark Batkie, Dale Schoen, Amanda Aldrich, William Dixon and Sheila Coats, also present Zoning Administrator, Richard Honaman.

Members Absent: Al Stoutenburg

Guests: Gary Heberling and Nathan Campbell

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by William Dixon, all present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Dale Schoen, Vice Chairman took over chairing the meeting.

Agenda: Add meeting on April 5, 2018 for Steve Ellis request and change to Gary Heberling speaking Scott Franzel regarding County Planning Commission training.

Minutes: Any additions or corrections from December 21, 2017, motion to approve minutes by Amanda Aldrich, second by Mark Batkie, minutes approved.

1. Update on Master Plan, Sheila Coats stated the Master Plan has been approved by the Township Board at the March 6, 2018 meeting. Now we need to supply information to Spicer Group as requested by them, ie, minutes, advertistment, copy of the paper and signed adoption papers.
2. Gary Heberling – Townships know more than the County Planning Commission of many of the current issues coming before the commissions, solar and windmills. He stated they would approve PA116 and discuss a few other items. The County Planning Commission decided to be leaders and not followers. The County Planning Commission will not tell the Townships how to do things in their Townships. But, the County would like to “share” knowledge from Township to Township, for example windmills and solar. In February they adopted a mission statement and they adopted 2018 attainable goals. One thing they are working on is a Citizen Planner and Certification program. Scott Franzel is the only one certified to date. The county planning commission is encouraging all to come to their planning commission meetings.

There was a lot of discussion about the desire to learn more, the timing of the meetings appeared to be an issue with many. The meetings are during work hours for most. They are prepared to offer as an online course as well.

Rich stated that we would meet again on April 5, 2018 at 7:00 pm for a home occupation permit meeting for Steve Ellis. There was some discussion on the appointment of Nathan Campbell at the April 3, 2018 Township Board Meeting.

Motion to adjourn by William Dixon, second by Mark Batkie, motion passed, meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted: *Sheila Coats*, **Watertown Township Planning Commission**