

2011-2012 Annual Report(s)

Indian Lake Planning Commission

Purpose:

The Municipalities Planning Code requires the Planning Commission to issue a report annually. The report is due by March 1 of each year, covering the previous year's activities. There are no prescribed formats or detailed requirements. This report covers CY 2011 and 2012. The last report on file is 2010.

This report is presented in topical rather than chronological format so as to complement the published minutes (chronological).

Membership/Officers:

Dick Brodt resigned from Planning Commission in July 2011 and Chris Meyer was appointed to replace him. Bob Vogel and Chris Meyer resigned from Planning Commission at the end of 2011 and in January 2012, Paul Cornez was reappointed to replace Vogel and serves as Vice-Chair. Chris Keiser was appointed, to fill the Meyer/Brodt vacancy. Tom O'Toole was elected as Recording Secretary. At the end of 2012, Bob Hanson stepped down as Chair and Don Reed was elected as Chair.

Studies:

No major studies or reports were issued by Planning in 2011-2012. Ordinance 155 as a complete rewrite was not pursued by Council. Planning did, at the request of Council, study lesser changes needed to clarify the Borough's desire not to allow plumbing or Living Quarters in detached garages. Council chose not to act, pending the outcome of ongoing litigation and citations. Other reviews were requested by Council and are discussed below under Actions and Correspondence.

Actions and Correspondence:

- In August of 2011 Planning issued a letter to Council to document the history of Ordinance 155 and to request Council provide specific direction concerning future effort. Council did not enact 155 [a complete rewrite] and opted instead for incremental changes as determined necessary by Council or the Zoning Officer. Planning supports this action.
- Two subdivision plans were reviewed as Planned Residential Developments [PRD] per our Zoning Ordinance. Both were approved by Council following the required Public Hearings and positive recommendations by Planning. [Perigo and Shaffer]
- A Sewerage Planning Module was reviewed and endorsed [Kotch].
- Council asked Planning to study our Zoning Hearing Board Fee in comparison to other Boroughs and Municipalities. A verbal report of the results and recommendation was made to Council

that ours was considered high by most standards and recommended a reduction. Council has, as yet, not acted on this recommendation.

- Reviewed a request by Musser Engineering on behalf of PBS to consider an agreement to provide water to Downey/Glades residents should PBS pursue mining in that area. Planning provided positive assessment and recommendation. Council ultimately decided to reject the initial proposal due to concerns over the long term needs of the Indian Lake community. Council established a committee to begin further dialog with PBS and Planning will support this committee and further discussion, if and when it occurs.
- Reviewed the Act 537 Addendum and endorsed Council approval based on positive impact on future growth.
- Reviewed a proposal by Universal American for a pond along East Airpark Rd. Comments were provided and Council voted to issue a letter of non-support to DEP. This was apparently dropped.
- Reviewed and endorsed a proposed change to the Zoning Ordinance to allow owners of suitable Park Lots to build boat houses with walkways/deckways (but not decks on top...). Council agreed but determined no change was required as the deck could be considered part of the structure and requirements for decks (standalone) would not apply.
- Reviewed needed easements/ROWS for dam and road work near the dam. These are in-process

Training:

No formal training was attended. A new version of the Municipalities Planning Code was issued by DCED and all members were given e-copies. Changes were not substantial.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R.F. Hanson".

R.F. Hanson
Former Chairman
[Chair during full period of Report]