

Marilla Planning Commission Meeting

Date: August 15, 2023, 6:30

Opening: Sonny Riewerts, chair

Present: Sonny Riewerts, Misty Cudney (Z.A.), Steve Vegter (T. Bd. Rep.), Jan Thomas, and Pat Ellis

Absent: none

Guests: Phyllis Cholette, Patrick Milliron

Approval of the July meeting minutes: Pat(1), Steve(2): approved

Public comment: Phyllis stated to the commission what she desires to do in creating splits on her property. She has submitted an application to satisfy the step one of the appeals process. Also included is an audience with the Planning Commission to review the issue. She presented a drawing of the proposed splits. Her proposal is to keep 40 acres of the wetlands in Resource Preservation and to rezone the remaining 158 acres into the Rural Residential category.

Step two is that 15 days before the public hearing, all utilities and property owners who may be affected by any changes in adjacent properties must be notified by mail of proposed changes. Information packets regarding the applicant's proposal must be prepared for each Commission member.

Step three is a hearing before the Appeals Bd. that is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 6:30.

Old Business:

We are now approaching the "wrap up stages" of the 5 year Master Plan review and update. This is what remains to be done: 1. Update of Marilla Township Zoning Map so that it meshes with our zoning ordinance. 2. Making certain that we have the proper data for completing the needed graphs. Misty is trying to get some assistance from the County Planning Commission for that. Some data is available from Jared Dittwiler, the assessor, and the "on-line" Manistee Co. Property Search. 3. Pat will get some additional information about the "Dial-a-Ride" services in Marilla Township. She did find out that the service includes three different time period availability per day. She is going to inquire about the average number of Marilla Township people participating. 4. We will try to find a "tech savvy" person to create the graphs that are

needed. 5. We may need to further address "care giver" situations that involve use of property.
6. We will add supporting language that addresses alternative energy generation in Marilla Township as follows: "Marilla Township will support the development of alternative energy sources while maintaining Marilla Township's rural atmosphere." This will fall under a new category titled: "Alternative Energy".

The final steps involve holding a public hearing. When we have completed all the above, we will send the Master Plan to the Manistee Co. Planning Commission for review. They have 30 days to review it before it is brought to Marilla Township Board for approval.

Misty is working on editing the document with the changes we have made. We hope to have the process wrapped up by the end of October.

Motion to adjourn: Jan (1), Steve (2); carried.

Next meeting is September 13, 2023, at 6:30. This is our regularly scheduled quarterly meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Thomas