

Austinburg Township

Zoning Commission Minutes
August 7, 2024

Members:

David Gottwig, Chair
Laurie Robishaw, Vice-Chair
Clare Polak (absent)
Phil Miller
Shara Parkomaki (absent)
Teresa Gottwig, Alternate

*Also Present: Byron Dutton, Trustee Liaison
Sarah Frank, Zoning Secretary
Dona Davis, Resident
Rex Davis, Resident
Ewing Hess, Resident
Chad Marrison, Resident*

Chair opened the meeting at 5:04pm. Chair requested roll call attendance:

*Clare - Not Present Shara - Not Present David - Present
Laurie - Present Phil - Present Teresa - Present*

Laurie motioned to approve minutes of the June 5, 2024, public hearing; Teresa seconded. All present voted aye. **Minutes approved.**

Laurie motioned to approve minutes of the July 3, 2024, regularly-scheduled meeting; Phil seconded. All present voted aye. **Minutes approved.**

Secretary stated Zoning Administrator was unable to attend the meeting so there is no Zoning Administrator report today. David welcomed those present and reviewed the results of Township Trustees' Public Hearing of Proposed Zoning Amendment on 7/15/24 7:00pm, including concerns voiced on height, lighting, and build-up vs rural setting. Commission discussed with those present any further concerns or misunderstandings of the intent or effect of the amendment. Chair agreed to report Commission's findings in a memo; Secretary agreed to draft it and send it before the next Trustee meeting.

Laurie presented her findings on ADU's, including a slideshow of notes titled "ADU Considerations" and Commission discussed whether the current zoning text supports multi-generational housing. Laurie was wary of making any change recommendations without further discussion with Zoning Administrator and information from the County Health Department. Laurie further concluded that there were already restrictive regulations in place by the county and more were not necessary at this time; Commission agreed it should be revisited next year if other regulations change.

David reviewed the County Planning Commission's 2022 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Laurie also reviewed her slide titled "Key Parts of a Comprehensive Plan"; Commission discussed.

David presented his findings on solar farming, including an Ohio map and table titled "Solar Case Status" ("as of 7/29/2024"); Commission reviewed. Chad Marrison shared information about solar farms from his professional knowledge and experience; Commission requested more resources and invited him to apply for a member position. Teresa suggested a "regional arts and cultural district". Laurie had concerns about resulting costs imposed on individual property owners but was interested in the terminology presented in ORC 3381.

Laurie motioned to adjourn; Teresa seconded. All present voted aye. ***Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.***

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Frank
Sarah Frank, Secretary