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TO: Kathy Knol, Trustee
FROM: Laura Kreps, Community Planner
DATE: June 10, 2025
RE: Planning/Zoning Activity Report

This report provides information on planning and zoning projects that have been through a pre-application meeting, reviewed by the Planning Commission, and/or the Zoning Board of Appeals as well as updates on special projects and ordinance amendments.

Summary of Meeting Items and Action:

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING SUMMARY:

Pre-application meetings are a required step in the site plan review process where the applicant presents a concept site plan to Township staff, including one Planning Commission member prior to submitting the project for formal review. It is likely that these projects will be on an upcoming Planning Commission agenda for action.

- **Little Lake Drive** – vacant parcel corner of Little Lake and Parkland Plaza, zoned I-1 potential minor auto repair facility. Conditional use and site plan submittals required.

PLANNING COMMISSION SUMMARY:

JUNE 9, 2025 - REGULAR MEETING

- **Discussion on Landscape Ordinance** – CWA provided information requested by the Planning Commission regarding an update the Invasive Species List and development a preferred plantings list to share with developers. Additional comments were received by the PC; it was requested that C. Nordstrom attended, providing additional insight into specific tree species questions that were raised.

Pending Action: Continue landscape ordinance discussion at future Planning Commission meeting.

- **Discussion on Accessory Dwelling Unit Text Amendment** – The Planning Commission discussed draft text amendment language to allow accessory dwelling units in single-family zoning districts with specific zoning regulations.

Benjamin R. Carlisle, *President* John L. Enos, *Vice President*
Paul Montagno, *Principal* Megan Masson-Minock, *Principal* Laura Kreps, *Principal* Brent Strong, *Principal*
David Scurto, *Principal* Sally M. Elmiger, *Principal* Craig Strong, *Principal* Douglas J. Lewan, *Principal*
Richard K. Carlisle, *Past President/Senior Principal* R. Donald Wortman, *Past Principal*

Pending Action: Set public hearing on the draft ordinance language prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

- **Discussion on Jackson Road Corridor Study Draft Recommendations** – Chairperson Culbertson gave an update on the study timeline. Public comments on the draft are due in the next week. The PC discussed the draft; the scheduled presentation on the final version will be held at the July 14th Planning Commission meeting.

Pending Action: Presentation scheduled for the final draft at the July 14th Planning Commission meeting.

- **Discussion on Chicken Ordinance** – The first draft of the chicken ordinance was discussed by the PC. The proposed ordinance would allow up to six (6) hens on properties zoned R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4. Currently, the keeping of chickens is limited to properties zoned AG, E-R or R-C having 2.5 acres. The discussion focused on the size of coop and whether roosters should be allowed. No specific changes were made to the draft. The Planning Commission will discuss it again at a future meeting.

Pending Action: Continue Chicken Ordinance discussion at a future Planning Commission meeting.

- **Discussion on City of Dexter Master Plan Amendment Response** – The Planning Commission reviewed and noted they would have considered “stronger language”. They encouraged the Township Board to consider copying the other adjacent townships on the letter as well.

Pending Action: Board of Trustees consideration of the City of Dexter Master Plan response letter at their June 10, 2025 meeting.

PENDING PROJECTS:

- **SP25003 – Nagel Precision** – The applicant is proposing an approximate 7,000 square foot building addition at the rear of the existing building to expand the facility’s tool room. No other exterior site improvements are proposed or required. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the conditions that the items outlined in the Planner’s and Engineer’s reports be resolved prior to detail engineering approval by the Board of Trustees.

Pending Action: Detail engineering plan has been submitted, and we are awaiting final approval from WCWRC. This item is tentatively scheduled for the June 24th BOT meeting.

- **OA#25002 – Piper Ridge Conditional Rezoning** – Request to conditionally rezone the former Parkland Plaza Senior Living site on Parkland Plaza immediately north of the Scioview development (H-08-26-200-008) from PUD, Planned Unit Development to MR-

3, Multiple-Family Residential allowing a maximum of 67 townhome units to be developed on the 7.7 acre property. Five (5) conditions of rezoning were offered voluntarily by the applicant. A public hearing was held and the Planning Commission requested additional information be provided by the applicant prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees on the conditional rezoning request.

Pending Action: Applicant to supply additional information for review and placement on a future PC meeting agenda.

- **Planning Commission By-Laws** – Additional discussion was held by the Planning Commission related to the mimicking of the Board of Trustees conflict of interest language that was recently adopted as part of their Rules of Order. Kathleen Brant and Kim Moore will be contacting Township Attorney, Mariah Fink, to discuss further to bring back additional language for PC discussion.

Pending Action: Continue by-laws discussion at a future Planning Commission meeting.

- **Discussion regarding accessory solar facilities** - Proposed ordinance language was provided for review by the Planning Commission to an exception for accessory solar arrays to encroach a maximum of ten (10) feet into a required rear setback with a maximum height of 12 feet. No further comments were provided on the draft ordinance. The next step is to set a public hearing on the draft ordinance language. The PC has a number of zoning ordinance text amendments pending and will be setting public hearings at a future date for several amendments at a time.

Pending Action: Set public hearing on the draft ordinance language prior to making a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

- **Discussion regarding Jackson Road Overlay District (JROD)** – This item was not on the April 28, 2025 PC agenda; however, we are working toward a joint PC/BOT meeting to discuss the direction of potential modifications to the JROD district. This joint session may be held off until the SEMCOG corridor study is completed. On February 25, 2025, the Planning Commission held a discussion regarding the findings of the Jackson Road Overlay Advisory Group to determine whether ordinance amendments are warranted. The Planning Commission requested additional mapping and listing of current uses allowed throughout the JROD for further consideration; these were provided for additional discussion. It was decided to postpone further consideration until a joint meeting with the BOT can be scheduled and the SEMCOG Corridor Study is further along – potentially June 2025.

Pending Action: Schedule joint PC / BOT meeting to discuss potential changes to the ordinance – potentially June 2025.

- **Knights of Columbus Preliminary PUD, 3991 Dexter-Ann Arbor Road, vacant parcel:** Proposed preliminary planned unit development (PUD) application for the former Knights of Columbus campground property located at 3991 Dexter-Ann Arbor Road for a detached, 47-unit single-family residential development. The development is located on the south side of Dexter-Ann Arbor Road between Wagner and W. Delhi Roads. The subject site encompasses two (2) properties containing 47 acres of vacant property containing woodlands, an open water pond (wetland) and steep slopes.

As this item was recommended for denial by the Planning Commission the next step in the process will be placement on a BOT agenda. The applicant has asked the Township Board to consider sending the project back to the Planning Commission due to new information provided as part of the hydrogeological study and revised plan set.

After additional review, Township staff and consultants have contacted the applicant regarding a number of outstanding issues to be addressed prior to further consideration by the Township Board in a communication dated December 17, 2024. Staff and Township consultants met with the Knights of Columbus development team in early April to review the Township's communication and actions the developer team are working on addressing for resubmittal and further Township review.

Pending Action: The Township has requested additional information prior to consideration by the Board of Trustees. This item was recommended for denial by the Planning Commission.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS SUMMARY:

No meeting since last report.

OTHER PLANNING AND ZONING ISSUES

The Planning Commission is working and/or discussing the following items:

- PUD Regulation Amendment (work ongoing)
- Renewable Energy Ordinance (work ongoing)
- EV parking Ordinance
- ESCAP implementation strategies (work ongoing)
- Landscape Ordinance Amendment (work ongoing)
- Accessory Solar Ordinance Amendment (work ongoing)
- Accessory Dwelling Unit Amendment (work ongoing)
- Keeping of Chickens Ordinance Amendment (work ongoing)



CARLISLE/WORTMAN ASSOC., INC.

Laura K. Kreps, AICP
Principal