

**Ganges Township Planning Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes DRAFT for September 18th, 2008  
Ganges Township Hall  
119<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 64<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fennville, MI, Allegan County**

I. Chairman **Birkes** called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Roll Call:** Chairman: Jim **Birkes** – Present  
Asst Chairman: Barry **Gooding** - Present  
Secretary: Jackie **DeZwaan** – Present  
Commissioner: Sally **Howard** – Absent  
Commissioner: Ed **Reimink** – Present (arrived 7:18)  
Commissioner: Dawn **Soltysiak** – Present  
Board Trustee: Terry **Looman** – Present

II. **General Public Comment**

Don **Karus Jr.** (2025 Brookhill Drive) suggested that when the Planning Commission (PC) reviews the Special Land Use section of the Zoning Ordinance (ZO), that they have as few rules as possible, thus allowing people the flexibility to be creative in their design for Special Land Uses.

**Karus** also suggested that the PC consider the need for barriers on roads adjacent to cemeteries, allowing for privacy at the cemetery.

III. **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by **Gooding** to approve the Agenda for this September 18<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting as submitted. Seconded by **Looman**. Motion carries unanimously.

IV. **Zoning Ordinance Workshop**

**Howard** reported to the PC that although she had not officially spoken to **Moore**, that they had exchanged voicemails and **Moore** assured her that the packets for the next phase of the ZO review (Districts) will be in the mail to everyone this week. **Howard** will also talk to **Moore** regarding future meeting dates of which it may be necessary to include her.

**Gooding** agreed that **Karus'** Public Comment regarding Section 13 – 8E Cemeteries (Public and Commercial) should include a requirement for a buffer and/or a setback.

**DeZwaan** clarified that all correspondence regarding the ZO is continuing to include the Township Board, **Birkes** confirmed that they are.

The PC resumed the review of the ZO beginning with Section 14.06 Special Land Use Standards L. Day Care Facility completing up to Section 14.06 Special Land Use Standards W. Outdoor Recreation Development, where they will resume at the next meeting.

The PC decided in lieu of having a second Special Meeting this month that they would do work within their Committee's: **Soltysiak** and **Birkes** are reviewing the Open Space Development portion of the ZO, **DeZwaan** and **Gooding** are reviewing the Fences and Signs portion of the ZO.

V. **Other Business that come before the Commission**

**Looman** reported that the Michigan Township Association is trying to schedule an upcoming workshop in Allegan for Practical Application to Michigan Zoning and Enabling Act

**Birkes** noted receipt of a letter from Saugatuck Township dated September 4<sup>th</sup>, which he will hold on to for further discussion at the next Regular Meeting.

**VI. Future Meeting Dates**

The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 pm at the Ganges Township Hall

**VII. General Public Comment**

None

**VIII. Adjournment**

Motion by **Gooding** supported by **DeZwaan** to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm. Motion carries unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Ronda J. Hall**  
**Ganges Township Recording Secretary**