

**Kinderhook Township Planning Commission**

**Unapproved**

**Branch County Michigan**

**Kinderhook Township Hall**

**April 12, 2018**

**Present:** Commission Members – Joe Spencer-Chairman, Keith Harris-Member, Jody Lewis-Board Representative/Member, Larry Hinsdale-Member, Hal McCurley-Member

Zoning Administrator Ron Patch

**Absent:** none

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joe Spencer at 6:58 PM

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of March 8, 2018 approved with no additions or corrections

**Citizen's comments:** One call re: Marijuana growing policy

**Township Board Correspondence:** Given information to follow up on

**Attorney Correspondence:** None

**Zoning Administrator's Report:** 10 permits issued, 7 reported zoning violations; 3 open

**Correspondence:**

**Old Business:**

- Board requested the Planning Commission to review present Wind Turbine ordinance and Solar Ordinance. Discussion of present policy and tabled to review additional information from townships who have accommodations of wind turbines.
- Discussed and tabled to look at present ordinance on residential wind mills.
- Change of climate, terrain, wildlife, and long-term effects were discussed as the zoning of property to place these turbines.

**New Business:**

- Discussed separation of individual turbines/windmills and solar energy and larges scale business of the same.
- Past studies have resulted with this area unsuitable for turbines.
- Suggested if for personal use no permit required but if tied into a power company for resale of power back would need a permit as at this point it would be commercial.
- Discussed Solar Panels possibilities: permits, setbacks, following sign ordinance rules for placement and size, if on roof no permit if on ground permit required. Placing a maximum generator size and/or wattage for residential VS commercial.
- Suggested owner of Turbines would be required to have a yearly certification by a third party to prove system is in compliance of ordinance.
- Suggested a yearly permit/cost to continue use.
- Suggested a policy on removal of unusable machinery.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Jody Lewis