

**Princeton Township  
Mille Lacs County, Minnesota**

**Planning Commission Meeting**

**Monday, January 6, 2020**

**Minutes**

**Public Hearing – Amendments to Zoning Ordinance: Event Venues & Agritourism**

On January 6, 6:00 p.m., Cheryl Schimming moved to open the public meeting. Seconded by Kathy Stoeckel. Motion carried.

- Planning Commission members present: Kathy Stoeckel, Tari Zortman, Cyndi MacDonald, Cheryl Schimming, and Tanya Lundberg
- Planning Commission member absent: Tom Braun.
- Also present: Town Board Liaison Dave Persing, Township Clerk-Treasurer Doug Dahl, and Township Zoning Administrator Scott Richards.

Scott Richards reviewed minor revisions to the zoning ordinance as suggested by members at previous meetings. Scott will make the revisions and present the final ordinance at the February meeting.

Joel Minks spoke favorably of the revisions, and commended commission members for their work.

Public meeting concluded at 6:15 p.m.

**Regular Meeting**

At 6:30 p.m. Tari Zortman called the regular monthly meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Cyndi MacDonald moved to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Kathy Stoeckel. Motion carried.

Kathy Stoeckel moved to approve the minutes of the September 9 meeting. Seconded by Cheryl Schimming. Motion Carried.

Members noted three typographical errors in the December 2 meeting minutes that required correction. Cyndi MacDonald moved to approve the minutes of the December 2 meeting with the corrections. Seconded by Tanya Lundberg. Motion carried.

**Discussion of Sketch Plan for Silver Lake Oaks**

Realtors Jesse Jondahl and Joss Jondahl appeared to present the initial sketch plan for a new development, Silver Lake Oaks on the southeast side of Silver Lake bordered by County Road 117 (Alpha Road). Engineer/surveyor Craig Wensmann explained the sketch plan, noting that he had been in contact with the Department of Natural Resources, Mille Lacs County, East Central Energy, and Township Zoning Administrator Scott Richards about the plan. He noted that he was continuing to revise the sketch plan in accordance with those consultations.

Zoning Administrator Scott Richards noted that the plan meets basic zoning requirements for the area. While he expressed some reservations about the configuration of some of the lots, he suggested passing the sketch plan to the Township Board for its review.

Members Cyndi MacDonald and Kathy Stoeckel expressed concerns about the plan. Reservations centered on lot size, access to adjacent roads, and water levels associated with adjacent ponds.

Kathy Stoeckel moved to turn the sketch plan over to the Town Board for comment. Seconded by Cyndi MacDonald. Motion carried.

**Discussion of Event Venue Process**

Scott Richards reviewed wording changes as recommended in the December 2 meeting. He noted that event-venue regulations would remain under interim-use permit. Any variant use involving alcohol will require a conditional-use permit. Examples: farm-based distillery, winery, micro-brewery. These will require a separate section in the ordinance.

Cheryl Schimming moved to re-open the public hearing on the issue and continue to the February meeting. Kathy Stoeckel seconded. Motion carried.

**Discussion of Solar-Energy Systems Regulations**

Scott Richards reviewed his draft of solar-energy systems regulations. Cheryl Schimming moved to add solar-energy regulation discussion to the public notice for the February meeting. Seconded by Kathy Stoeckel. Motion carried.

**Open Forum**

No new discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Dahl  
Clerk/Treasurer

Attendees: Terri Persing, Jesse Jondahl, Joss Jondahl, Craig Wensmann, Joel Minks, Jenny Kick, Bill Whitcomb, Nancy Moan, Eldon Johnson, Scott Moller.