

**St. Clair County Metropolitan Planning Commission
Conference Room A, County Administration Building
200 Grand River Avenue, Port Huron, Michigan**

Wednesday

January 18, 2012

4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Murphy followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Present: Murphy, Andrews, Cooper, Heidemann, Lockwood, Secory, Sheehy, Tansky, Schumacher, DeBoyer, Sass

Excused: None

Absent: None

Citizens: None

Staff: Struck, Donaldson, Wallace, Diedrich, Eschenburg, Zabor

3. Changes in Order/Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Motion by Lockwood supported by Sass to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Election of Officers

Sheehy provided a report from the nominating committee and stated that nominations would be taken from the floor.

The recommendations of the Nominating Committee included:

Chairman, Marsden Murphy; **Vice Chairman**, Dan Lockwood; and **Secretary**, Robert Sheehy. They each accepted their nomination.

Chairperson:

Sheehy asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor for the position of Chairperson. Being none, **motion** by Schumacher, supported by Andrews to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Marsden Murphy as Chairperson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Vice Chairperson:

Sheehy asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor for the position of Vice Chairperson. Being none, **motion** by Schumacher, supported by Secory to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Dan Lockwood as Vice Chairperson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Secretary:

Sheehy asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor for the position of Secretary. Being none, **motion** by Schumacher, supported by Andrews to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Robert Sheehy as secretary. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Citizens Wishing to Address the Commission

None

6. **Comments/News from the Planning Commissioners and Staff**

DeBoyer – Spoke regarding Clay Township’s public hearing on January 25, 2012, to receive comments about their Master Plan from citizens.

Sass – Talked about the Master Plan for Parks and Recreation and also reviewed several projects including the Columbus Twp lodge and the light station in Port Huron.

Wallace – There is a Traffic Safety Summit in March in Lansing. Please contact her for details.

Tansky – Spoke about the St. Clair County Association of School Boards Meeting he attended. Heard about standardized test scores, the Blue Water Middle College for high school students, and listened to an excellent speaker regarding state changes in Superintendent evaluations.

Secory – Discussion occurred on loft apartments and plans for three historic buildings.

Heidemann – Spoke about some of the BOC initiatives including the convention center and I-69 Corridor. Discussion occurred on concerns and benefits of these projects, and communicating with the public in an effective manner.

Struck – Sent around the first drafts of the Port Huron Township Master Plan reports.

Murphy – Shared a “dashboard concept” idea to help streamline frequently used programs and websites on the staff computers.

7. **Approval of Minutes – December 14, 2011**

Motion by Cooper, supported by Sheehy to approve the Minutes for December 14, 2011. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. **Acceptance of Communications**

Motion by Sass, supported by Cooper, to receive and file communications. **Motion carried unanimously.**

9. **Financial Reports**

Motion by Schumacher, supported by Lockwood, to acknowledge receipt of the financial reports ending December 31, 2011. **Motion carried unanimously.**

10. **Consent Agenda**

A. **Ira Township Text Amendment – Nonconforming Uses**

- o The proposed amendments are consistent with the planning components and goals stated in the Ira Township Master Plan.
- o The proposed amendments are consistent with the planning components and goals stated in the St. Clair County Master Plan.
- o The Ira Township Planning Commission recommends approval of the proposed changes.

Staff recommends that the Metropolitan Planning Commission concur with the Ira Township Planning Commission and recommend to the Ira Township Board approval of the proposed text amendments to their Zoning Ordinance, which will allow Ira Township to administer their Ordinance more effectively.

Motion by Lockwood, supported by Sass, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

11. Work Program Reports

Struck

- Grant Township – Spoke to the commission about updating the township’s zoning ordinance.
- I-69 Corridor Project – Short discussion occurred. Staff will provide an updated list of communities in next month’s board packet.
- City of Algonac – The city would like staff to review their master plan from 1974. Discussion occurred.
- New Agenda – A sample new agenda was reviewed and changes were discussed. Reaching consensus, the changes will be reflected in the agenda for February.
- Department Goals – These goals will be discussed at the February meeting. Please provide any questions, comments, suggestions, or feedback to the director by February 3.
- Winter Workshop – The 2012 Winter Workshop will be held on Thursday, February 23. Basic training and brownfield redevelopment are among the topics being covered.

Donaldson

- Brownfield Redevelopment – Spoke about the upcoming MPC Workshop and Brownfield’s involvement in it. The authority is looking for potential sites, and has been brainstorming ideas to make communities aware of the authority. Updated the commission on several projects the BRA is involved in, including the Sperry’s building, Huron-Main project, and the Port Huron Yacht Club project.
- Outreach Grant – A timeline will be provided at the February meeting. It is important to be proactive instead of reactive with this.
- City of Memphis – Staff is working with the Macomb County Planning Commission and providing support as the City of Memphis reviews their master plan.

Wallace

- SCCOTS – The Unified Work Program is being updated. Highway performance data is being wrapped up. TIP development for the county capital improvement program is being worked on for this year.

Diedrich

- County – A draft of the County Report Card will be available next month.
- Community – Participating in a group that is writing a grant to develop the downtown river walk.

Eschenburg

- Blueways – A map/poster was circulated showing paddling opportunities, as well as park locations. There will be more brochures at February’s meeting for commissioners to take back to their respective districts. Discussion occurred regarding recreational opportunities in the county.

Motion by Sass, supported by Schumacher, to acknowledge receipt of the Work Program Reports. **Motion carried unanimously.**

12. Chairperson’s Report

Chairman Murphy presented an overview of the items in his report from the supplemental packet.

Motion by Lockwood, supported by Sass, to accept the Chairperson’s report. **Motion carried unanimously.**

13. **Old Business**

None

14. **New Business**

A. 2012-2016 Master Recreation Plan Update

Struck reviewed the Master Recreation Plan Update, Chapter 6, Goals and Objectives. Staff is working with Parks and Recreation to accommodate the goals of the BOC. Short discussion occurred.

B. SCCOTS Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

Motion by Tansky, seconded by Cooper to approve the SCCOTS FY2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. SCCOTS FY2011-2014 TIP Amendment – SCC Road Commission

Motion by Andrews, seconded by DeBoyer to approve amendment of the SCCOTS Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-2014 TIP, as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. 2012 Meeting Schedule (dates and times)

Motion by Sheehy, seconded by Sass to approve the 2012 meeting schedule with a 3:00 p.m. start time for all meetings. **Motion carried unanimously.**

E. Appointees for Parks Recreation

1. Main Representative
2. Alternate

Motion by Lockwood, seconded by Schumacher to appoint Sass as the Main Representative and Secory as the Alternate for Parks and Recreation. **Motion carried unanimously.**

F. December Meeting Checklist Tally

The checklist was reviewed and appreciation was expressed for taking the time to complete it and make constructive suggestions.

15. **Adjournment**

Motion by Sass supported by DeBoyer to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Sheehy, Secretary