

MINUTES  
City of Alpena Planning Commission  
Regular Meeting  
January 8, 2019  
Alpena, Michigan

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Paul Sabourin, Planning Commission Chair.

ROLL CALL: PLANNING COMMISSION

PRESENT: Mitchell, VanWagoner, Boboltz, Sabourin, Lewis, Wojda, Kirschner

ABSENT: Gilmore, Austin

STAFF: Adam Poll (Director of Planning & Development), Cassie Stone (Recording Secretary).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Add approval of 2019 Meeting Schedule under the Business section, as number 2. Agenda approved as printed with that addition.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

November 20, 2018, minutes were approved as printed.

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION ACTION: None

BUSINESS:

1. Medical Marijuana – Potential Zoning Districts if approved.

Poll stated that at the next City Council Meeting, medical marijuana and facilities will be discussed and added the City has the right to opt in or opt out of allowing marijuana facilities. The City will also be able to control the location of facilities by zoning. Poll added that it is not as clear with recreational marijuana and the only time the word zoning is mentioned is it does not allow for the commercial aspect of a marijuana facility to be located in an exclusively residential zone or within 1000 feet of a K-12 school. Poll added that under the medical law the City has the ability to distinguish between the types and the number of facilities allowed. Under the recreational, that is still unclear. Poll also mentioned that the recreational law is written for people over the age of 21, while the medical law is written for age 18 and over. This could

enable more people between the age of 18-21 to obtain a medical marijuana card so both recreational and medical would be legal. Poll expressed that he doesn't feel medical will go away completely but he does feel that a lot of the medical facilities will quickly be converted to recreational as soon as and if the communities allow them. As of December 2018, any person over the age of 21 is legally allowed to have 12 plants in their household. That is out of our control since it has become legal but what we do have somewhat control over is the medical facilities and where they are located. As far as a number of how many facilities, Poll feels that number will come from Council. Depending on how the next council meeting goes and if they opt in or out will determine if further discussions will continue with the Planning Commission.

2. Approval of 2019 Meeting Schedule.

Poll stated that there will be a meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup>, but there is still discussion on if the CIP joint meeting with Council will be held on February 13<sup>th</sup> or February 20<sup>th</sup>. Poll will let everyone know via email what day the CIP meeting will be.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

REPORTS:

1. Development Update:

Work is still underway on the Assisted Living Facility located by the museum. Work has slowed at the Northland Credit Union location on Bagley. WG Benjey has started construction. Poll added that there has been a lot of interest lately in the Downtown Rental Rehab and he will be attending a meeting tomorrow morning. Poll is also meeting with a gentleman from Dry Dock to try and get a state grant underway for them. Poll hasn't heard much on the downtown brewery other than they were trying for a Spring opening but isn't sure how close they are to that goal.

2. Comprehensive Plan Update:

Poll stated that he sent an email out late today regarding three draft chapters from the Comp Plan for review. Two public input sessions are required for the document. Poll is hoping to have a draft copy ready for March or at least have a public input meeting by then.

3. Capital Improvements Plan:

Discussion on CIP date has been discussed and Poll will notify the Planning Commission when date has been selected.

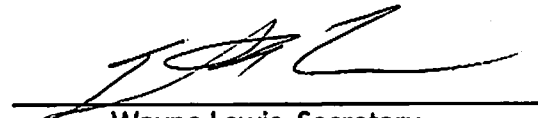
4. Mich-e-ke-wis Park Plan:

Poll stated that there is an agreement with NEMCOG to facilitate updating the plan for the Mich-e-ke-wis side of the park and future meetings with the public and the recreation advisory board will be upcoming. Poll will get dates out for anyone who has interest in attending to get as much input as possible.

**CALL TO PUBLIC:**     None

**MEMBER'S COMMENTS:**     None

**ADJOURNMENT:**     There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.  
by Sabourin, Planning Commission Chair.



---

Wayne Lewis, Secretary