



# DEXTER TOWNSHIP

## PLANNING COMMISSION

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MARTY STRAUB  
**CHAIR & ZBA REP**  
VACANT  
**VICE CHAIR**  
TOM LEWIS  
**SECRETARY**  
KAREN SIKKENGA  
**EX-OFFICIO TWP. BRD.**  
CHANDRA HURD  
CHRISTINA MAIER  
KIMBERLY MARINELLI  
BOB NESTER  
**COMMISSIONERS**  
  
JANIS MILLER  
**RECORDING SECRETARY**

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

#### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Present: Marty Straub, Chair; Tom Lewis, Secretary; Chandra Hurd, Bob Nester, and Karen Sikkenga.

Absent: Christina Maier, Kimberly Marinelli, and David Rohr, Director of Planning and Zoning.

Also present: Attorney Mark Roberts, and Janis Miller, Recording Secretary.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Straub called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all present.
3. **Conflict of Interest:** None, as there were no public participants present.
4. **Approval of Agenda:**  
*With no additions or corrections Chair Straub deemed agenda approved.*
5. **Public Comment:** (non-agenda items) None.
6. **Action Item:** Discussion of Medical Marihuana Caregiver(s) draft ordinance.

#### Commissioners Discussion Summary:

- a) Most recent State legislation.
- b) Commissioners reviewed a proposed ordinance from Byron Township, MI (court affirmed in legal contest).
- c) Dexter Township opted out of the recreational marihuana grow/uses with Ordinance #40, which does not address zoning.
- d) Dexter Township moratorium on action to create an Ordinance expires December 31, 2021.
- e) The focus of the legislation is Medical Marihuana. Individuals can grow a limited number of plants for their own use.
- f) State licensed caregivers may have up to 5 patients and grow no more than 12 plants per patient.
- g) Plants need to be in a sealed and locked facility, with access limited to the caregiver. Marihuana is pungent so odor is a factor in any grow facility. Accessory buildings use for growing marihuana must have a locked fence around the building.
- h) Dexter Township does not issue marihuana grow permits, it only issues ~~building~~ zoning permits

- in which to grow marihuana, hence any fees collected are for zoning a Home Occupation.
- i) Minimum lot size of 5 acres with no plants being grown out of doors.
  - j) Upcoming review of the Dexter Township Master Plan in regards to Marihuana grow facilities.
  - k) The Medical Marihuana Act did not legalize marihuana but provided injunctions against enforcing state law.
  - l) Without zoning for marihuana grow facilities, the township loses control of where they are located.
  - m) Discussion of changes in language to the Byron Township document to make it applicable to Dexter Township.

Motion by Lewis, seconded by Hurd, to set a Public Hearing for the Medical Marihuana Caregivers Draft Zoning Ordinance at the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting, on October 26, 2021, at 7 pm. Motion carried 5-0.

**7. Approval of Planning Commission Minutes:**

*Motion by Nester, seconded by Sikkenga, to approve the meeting minutes of July 27, 2021, as amended. Motion carried 5-0.*

**8. Election of Officers:** No action

**9. Township Board of Trustees Update:**

Karen Sikkenga, Township Board Representative gave a report on the September 21, 2021 regular Township Board Meeting.

**10. Concerns of Commission Members, Director of Planning and Zoning, Supervisor, and Recording Secretary:** None.

**11. Review of Bylaws:** No action.

**12. Public Comment:** None, as there were no public participants present.

**13. Future Agenda Items:** None.

**14. Adjournment:**

*Motion by Nester, seconded by Hurd, to Adjourn the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM*

Respectfully submitted,

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Tom Lewis, Secretary

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Janis Miller, Recording Secretary