



PLANNING COMMISSION

January 9, 2014

A special meeting of the City of Petoskey Planning Commission was held in the City Hall Community Room, Petoskey, Michigan, on Thursday, January 9, 2014. Roll was called at 7:01 P.M. and the following were:

Present: Gary Greenwell, Chairperson
Dana Andrews
Dean D. Burns
James Holmes
Elizabeth Looze
Emily Meyerson
Rick Neumann
Cynthia Linn Robson
Eric Yetter

Staff: Amy Tweeten, City Planner

Others Present: Jeff Winegard, Top of Michigan Trails Council
Harry Burkholder, LIAA
Students

**Approval of Minutes for the December 12, 2014
Joint City Council and Planning Commission Meetings**

Upon motion made and supported, the minutes of the December 12, 2014 joint City Council and Planning Commission meeting were approved.

**Presentation by Harry Burkholder, Land Information
Access Association (LIAA), on Trail Towns**

Jeff Winegard, Executive Director of the Top of Michigan Trails Council, gave an overview of the existing and proposed trail system in northern Michigan and introduced Harry Burkholder from LIAA. Mr. Burkholder gave an overview of the trail town concept and its origins and successes through the Allegheny Trail Alliance. He explained the basic idea to be ensuring that communities along the trail are better able to maximize the economic potential of trail-based tourism and gave a presentation illustrating what different communities are doing to incorporate the four-point approach to community revitalization created by the National Main Street Center of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Mr. Burkholder stated that LIAA had money to complete a Trails Town Plan for Petoskey and the Commission supported the idea of moving forward with creation of such a plan.

Zoning Ordinance Amendments – Transitional Business District

Staff provided an overview of the changes to the drafts. Commissioners discussed the special condition use for warehousing and gave direction to add language that retail use must be on street frontage, and suggested changes to the illustration of parking in the B2-B District to make the parking screening more open to the greenway corridor. The Commission also discussed holding a public workshop on the proposed changes before having a formal public hearing. Staff will try and schedule for the special meeting in February.

Updates

Staff updated the Commission on the ZBA amendments approved by Council, explained that the issue of vacation rentals would likely be coming to the Commission for discussion and that staff would be meeting with the new owner of the 200 E Lake Street block.

Commissioner Meyerson stated her concern about the process to amend the Zoning Ordinance without the proposed changes first being reviewed and recommended by the Planning Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.