

**PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Joint Meeting with Zoning Board of Appeals
January 27, 2016
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
7:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: R. Johnson, H. Jugenitz, A. Bedogne, B. Mason, L. MacGregor, J. Bailey, J. Albers, T. Roach, E. Seymour

Absent: P. Hollifield (excused) C. Zuellig (excused)

Staff: Bonnie Wessler, Planner II
Nan Schuette, Executive Secretary
Cynthia Kochanek, Planner I
J. Meyers, Community Development Director

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Training Session Presented by John Iacoangeli on behalf of Michigan Association of Planning (MAP).

Mr. Iacoangeli gave some background information on MAP stating that it is a non-profit membership-based organization, established in 1945 with approximately 4,000 members across the state that includes professional community planners, local elected officials and appointed land use decision makers such as planning commissioners and zoning board members.

MAP's mission provides information, education and advocacy to make better land use decisions. They also provide tools and resources to assist communities in making sound legally defensible decision, help planners understand their role in the land development process and how their position works in relation to others in their community. He referred to various information resources, educational workshops and upcoming events.

The presentation was divided into three parts: Planning Commission; Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals; and Zoning Board of Appeals. The Planning Commission part consisted of what planning is, commission structure and duties, master planning and the zoning ordinance. The Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals portion was based on making effective decisions and the Zoning Board of Appeals portion consisted of appeals, interpretations, variance requests, nonconformities and voting requirements.

Mr. Iacoangeli covered each of the sections, taking time at various intervals to get feedback and comments from all of the members as well as responding to any questions. He also went through a couple of exercises on variances and accessory building in the Rear Yard Ordinance.

At the end of the program, members completed evaluation forms and agreed it was a very informative session.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. FUTURE BUSINESS

Ms. Wessler reminded Planning Commission members that a special meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss solar.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Since there was no further business, Commissioner Bedogne moved to adjourn the meeting (Support: B. Mason). The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.