



DRAFT MINUTES

Zoning Board of Appeals MEETING Monday,
August 7, 2023 @ 7:00 PM Council
Chambers
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

I. CALL TO ORDER (7:05PM)

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Albers, Hickey, Roach, Donnelly
Absent: Auerbach, White (both with notice)

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

ZBA Member Donnelly asked to amend the agenda by correcting the spelling of her name, which was incorrectly recorded as "Dooley" in the packet.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Offered by: Donnelly; Seconded by: Roach; Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Auerbach, White).

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[ZBA Minutes Regular Meeting December 2022](#)

Motion to approve the December minutes.

Offered by: Hickey; Seconded by: Albers; Approved: Yes – 3; Abstain – 1 (Roach); No – 0; Absent – 2 (Auerbach, White).

V. PURPOSE OF MEETING

Officers Election – Chair and Vice Chair

A. Nominations

1. Chair

a. *Motion to nominate Jake Albers as Chair.*

Offered by: Roach; Seconded by Hickey; Nomination Accepted by: Albers.

b. Vote from Floor

Voted: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent 2 (Auerbach, White).

2. Vice Chair

a. *Motion to nominate Georgina Hickey as Vice Chair.*

Offered by: Roach; Seconded by: Donnelly; Nomination Accepted by: Hickey.

b. Vote from Floor

Voted: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Auerbach, White).

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Updates | Supportive Housing Zoning Text Amendment

City Planner Andrews announced the passage by Planning Commission and City Council Resolution to remove Supportive Housing as a regulation from the Zoning Ordinance. The action served as a reformatory measure to promote fair housing, improve equity in zoning, and align with the Fair Housing Amendments Act stipulations that apply to zoning and planning.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Vice Chair Hickey requested updates on Planning Commission business as well as the status of development projects at future meetings.
- B. Announcements | Status of the City Planning Department Staffing

City Planner Andrews shared news about the following Planning Department staffing changes in 2023 –

- Joe Meyers resigned from the position as Planning Director in April.
- Christopher Jacobs assumed Meyers’s duties and responsibilities as of April in addition to his position as Community Development Director.
- Christopher resigned his employment with the City of Ypsilanti in July 2023.
- In August, City Council approved the hiring of planning firm, Carlisle and Wortman to perform an audit on departmental staffing needs moving forward, as well as providing a la carte services as needed on an hourly basis.
- Elize Jekabson has been tapped to serve as acting Planning Director during this time of transition.

VIII. FUTURE BUSINESS DISCUSSIONS / UPDATES

- A. City Planner Andrews announced a sign variance application in the formative stages that will come before the Zoning Board of Appeals within the next month.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn.

Offered by: Hickey; Seconded by: Donnelly; Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Auerbach, White).