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**ONEKAMA COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012, 7 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. By Chairman Jim Trout.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Al Taylor, Doug Mortenson, Roger Cody, Tom Koon, Susan Barnard, Bonnie Miller. Absent: Charlotte Straight, Craig Peterson.

**MINUTES: Motion** by Miller, second by Trout that the minutes of the July 17, 2012 Regular Meeting be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA:** After Public Comment, add Possible Zoning Ordinance Amendment, Little Eden Special Use Permit after Zoning Ordinance Amendment, add Mute Swans after Little Eden.

**ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT:** Zoning Administrator Kris Philpot explained conflicting definitions in the current zoning ordinance regarding accessory structures. Under Article 5-Definitions, Section 503 B it reads: "Accessory structures include, but are not limited to tents, sheds, storage structures, playground equipment (non-residential), gazebos, parking lots, sports courts, fences within the setback areas, swimming pools. Recreational vehicles and travel trailers which are clearly not permanent and are easily removed are not considered accessory structures. Under no circumstances shall a septic system or tile field be considered an accessory structure".

Philpot recommended this definition be corrected to read as follows: "Accessory structures include, but are not limited to: (**remove the word tents**) sheds, storage structures, playground equipment (non-residential), gazebos, parking lots, sports courts, fences within the setback areas, swimming pools. Recreational vehicles, **tents (added)**, and travel trailers which are clearly not permanent and are easily removed are not considered accessory structures. Under no circumstances shall a septic system, tile field, **attached carport or attached garage (added)** be considered an accessory structure."

Under the definition Principal Structure, last sentence: "A non-permanent structure or easily removable structure such as a tent, travel trailer, recreational vehicle or similar structure shall **not (added)** be considered as accessory structures for the purposes of this ordinance even if no other permanent principal structure is on the lot."

**Motion** by Cody, second by Barnard to recommend to the Township Board that it approve the corrections as outlined in the above Definitions. Motion carried.

**LITTLE EDEN SPECIAL USE PERMIT-AMENDMENT REQUEST:** Philpot said the action requested is to amend the Special Use Permit by approving the use exchange of two existing structures at Little Eden Camp, 3721 Portage Point Road, Onekama, MI, I 49675, Property Number 51-11-290-366-00. The applicants would like to change the use of the cabin known as "Shady Nook" to a storage building and change the use of the storage building to a guest cabin. The requested change is non-substantive. Nothing in the requested amendment would change any of the limitations on the capacity of the camp or the activities allowed by the existing permit. (NOTE: The complete request is attached

to the original document of these minutes.)

**Motion** by Cody, second by Mortenson to approve the request from Little Eden Camp for its non-substantive change. Motion carried. Wayne Faber was introduced to the planning commission as the new director at Little Eden Camp, replacing Milo F. Kauffman, who is retiring.

**MUTE SWANS:** Al Taylor discussed the issue of mute swans on Portage lake and what the DNR program is to deal with them. He said it is a multi-step program. By law in Michigan, the mute swans cannot be transported to other areas, they are an invasive species. The DNR said it will work with the township and village to conduct a public educational program for the area, possibly in September. Taylor said more information is available on the Onekama website. Go to onekama.info, click on Township. Look for mute swan/DNR info.

**FEEDBACK ON ZONING ORDINANCE:** Trout reported the Township Board agreed that the planners should go back to the original township and village ordinances, incorporate them and the best of the Beckett & Raeder document and formulate the ordinance. The commission discussed issues in the ordinance. Among them are standards, height, fencing, materials, boat and recreational vehicle storage, buildings, tree houses, consistency in signage. Consensus of the commission is to develop a letter to send to the township board, village council both township and village zoning boards of appeal, both zoning administrators, candidates for offices in the November village and township election. The letter would request each individual to submit a list of up to 10 issues they see as needing to be addressed in the zoning ordinance—priorities for inclusion, deletion, or modification to the existing Code language or requirements. The planning commission would like the list prior to its Sept. 20 meeting.

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA:** Trout said the Township Board agreed to a request to extend the moratorium on Medical Marijuana for another six months.

**WIND ENERGY ORDINANCE:** Trout reported the Township Board will address the Wind Energy Ordinance at its September meeting.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:** Meeting times for the Sept. 20 and Oct. 18 meetings will start at 6: 30 p.m. for a training video, and because Nov. 15 begins the deer hunting season, that meeting date is changed to Nov. 8 at 6:30 p.m.. which also will include a training video.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**ADJOURN:** 9:05 p.m.

Submitted by  
Mary Lou Millard,  
Recording Secretary

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Jim Trout, Chairman

Absent  
Charlotte Straight, Secretary