

MANISTEE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
70 MAPLE STREET
MANISTEE, MI 49660

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 1, 2001

A meeting of the Manistee City Planning Commission was held on Thursday, February 1, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 70 Maple Street, Manistee, Michigan.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Ferguson, Ray Fortier, John Lakos, Phil Picardat, Brad Williams, Roger Yoder

MEMBER LATE: Bob Davis

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Serocki, and Tony Slawinski

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristie Harless, Greg Flisram (Langworthy Strader LeBlanc), Frank Beaver (County Planner), Jeff Mikula (Abonmarche), Frederick Richter, Jon R. Rose (Community Development) and Denise Mikula (City Staff)

Meeting was open at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Roger Yoder.

PUBLIC HEARING:

None

CITIZEN QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS:

Frank Beaver, County Planner distributed a general information packet on what is available at the County Planning Department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, January 4, 2001

MOTION by John Lakos, seconded by Phil Picardat that the minutes of the January 4, 2001 Planning Commission be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Site Plan Review Committee Meeting Minutes. January 9, 2001

MOTION by John Lakos, seconded by Phil Picardat that the minutes of the January 9, 2001 Site Plan Review Committee Meeting be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Langworthy, Strader, LeBlanc & Associates

Langworthy, Strader, LeBlanc & Associates (LSL) have been contracted by the City of Manistee to update the Master Plan. The current plan was adopted in 1988 and is in need of an update.

Greg Flisram of LSL spoke to the members on the process of updating the plan. LSL will prepare a document that is based on Land Use, Public Services, Transportation, etc. that will project future development for the City for the next 5 to 10 years. The Community Development Department gave Mr. Flisram copies of many of the reports, studies and surveys that have been done in the past for the City. These items will assist in updating the plan.

Roger Yoder asked about possible grant funding that may be available for updating the Master Plan. Jon Rose said that he would call Cathy Cunningham, Coastal Zone Management and see if our update would qualify for funding.

Mr. Flisram asked each member of the Planning Commission to in one or two words describe an item that needs to be addressed in the Master Plan. The items were:

- Development – not enough vacant land (almost built out)
- Manistee Lake – need recreation, less industry
- Pedestrian Safety
- Transportation – U.S. 31 Corridor
- Downtown Revitalization
- Economic Growth
- Industrial Development
- Commercial Growth
- Maintain Historic Integrity
- Maintaining the Quality of Life – small town atmosphere
- Recreation Opportunities – Children/Adults/Seniors

Each member was asked to list one or two areas that need specific attention. The list included:

- Manistee Lake
- Maxwell Town
- U.S. 31 Corridor – entire length
- Washington Street
- Twelfth Street – newly annexed property
- Downtown
- Lake Michigan Recreation Areas
- North River Bank

Mr. Flisram discussed different options for public participation in the plan. The proposal from LSL included their representative attending eight meetings. How the meetings are to be planned would be up to the members of the Planning Commission.

Ideas for community involvement included:

- Neighborhood Meetings
- Open Forum
- Conducting one on one interview of a list of people prepared by the Planning Commission Members.
- School Children

Each member of the Planning Commission was asked to list two people who they feel should be interviewed. This list will be compiled and discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Flisram asked what the members of the Planning Commission did not like about the old Master Plan. The members all agreed that the old plan was too long and too dry to be a useful document.

Mr. Flisram asked what the members of the Planning Commission would like to see in the new plan. Consensus was that the new plan should be streamlined and easy to read.

Each member was given a handout of three pages from the old Master Plan and asked to make comments on each page. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

None

WORKSESSION:

The February Worksession is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2001. LSL will be in attendance and work will continue on updating the Master Plan.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Bob Davis, seconded by Phil Picardat that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

MANISTEE PLANNING COMMISSION


Denise J. Mikula, Recording Secretary