

## Manistee City Planning Commission

### WORKSESSION NOTES

February 21, 2002

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Greg Ferguson, Ray Fortier, Joyce Jeruzal, David Kelley, Phil Picardat, John Serocki and Roger Yoder

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bob Davis and Tony Slawinski

**OTHERS :** Jennifer Williams (Filer Twp), Shirley Ball (Filer Twp), Dana Schindler (Filer Twp), Jim Perkins (Filer Twp), Thomas Stefanski (Filer Twp), Vickie Hoffman (FilerTwp), James Baker (Manistee Twp), John Zielinski (Manistee Twp), John Dunlap (Manistee Twp), Dennis Switalski (Manistee Twp), Frank Beaver (County Planner), Dan Shepherd (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians), Dan Reed (LSL) Jeff Mikula (Abonmarche)Jon Rose (Community Development), Denise Mikula (City Staff) and others

Worksession began at 7:00 p.m.

This worksession was held in the Second Floor meeting room at Lighthouse Brewing Company, 312 River Street, Manistee, Michigan. This meeting was facilitated by Dan Reed, Senior Planner from Langworthy, Strader and LaBlanc. Invited to the worksession were members of the Charter Township of Filer City Planning Commission, Manistee Township Zoning Board, Manistee County Planning Commission, staff from the County Planning Department and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Planning Department.

Concerns expressed included need for jobs in the area to keep the next generation from moving out of the area, Traffic concerns, environmental issues. Need to manage growth in the area and plan developments that fit into the area.

The program covered several topics including: Example of cooperative methods used by other townships/cities, Renaissance Park, U.S. 31 Corridor, Non-motorized pathways (bikepaths), Manistee Lake, Lake Michigan Shoreline, Public Utilities - Water & Sewer, Zoning, and Educational Workshops.

Discussed Renaissance Park and the need to get industry to move into the area. Jon Rose explained the development of the park and the lack of interest for business to locate to the Park. Discussed zoning, unemployment trends, and the current economy.

U.S. 31 Corridor was discussed and the increase in traffic. Frank Beaver gave information on the funding request for Access Management from MDOT. Discussed what could happen to the area if

a by-pass were to be constructed and the effect the expressway has had on Ludington.

Non-motorized pathways - Bike Paths were discussed. Dan Shepherd asked if they would consider allowing electric bikes to be used on the pathway? The tribe is putting in electric connections for electric bikes. Dan Reed suggest the width of the pathways to be between 12 and 14 feet to accommodate pedestrians and bike users. Michigan currently is #1 in non-motorized trails in the nation thanks to the rails-to-trails plan. Manistee Township currently has a path from Burger King to Hill Road approximately 1 ½ miles in length. The City is trying to develop a pathway through the City to M-22. Problems include how to get them over the bridges?

Manistee Lake was discussed and how future development should be planned for the lake. Need to look 20 to 50 years into the future and decide if industry is appropriate. How to plan the area in the event the industries were to close or move? Try to obtain Brownfield status for the areas around the lake that had or have industry. The City has currently begun the process of obtaining Brownfield status for the City. Spoke about the problem the railroad system creates with its proximity to the lake.

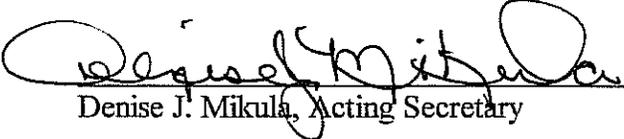
Lake Michigan was discussed and the current issue raised by the possible relocation of the PCA pipeline to the river. Soil erosion and the need to protect the dunes and environment along Lake Michigan. The value of property along the lakeshore and need for public access was discussed.

Public Utilites were discussed. The City of Manistee and the Charter Township of Filer are currently working on an agreement to provide services. This joint effort would be beneficial to both municipalities.

Dan Reed said that he was pleased to see the attendance at the meeting. The information shared at the workshop will be used to assist in the update of the City's Master Plan.

There being no further discussion the worksession closed at 9:04 p.m.

MANISTEE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

  
Denise J. Mikula, Acting Secretary