

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

APPROVED

September 11, 2017

5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198

517-853-4560, Town Hall Room, 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT: Commissioners Baruah, Cordill, Ianni, Lane, Premoe, Scott-Craig,
Tenaglia (Arrived 7:09)**

ABSENT: Commissioner Richards

**STAFF: Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach,
Senior Planner Peter Menser**

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Ianni called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2. Public Remarks-NONE

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Scott-Craig moved to approve the agenda as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Cordill.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. August 14, 2017 Regular Minutes

B. August 28, 2017 Regular Minutes

C. August 28, 2017 Work Session Minutes

Commissioner Scott-Craig moved to approve the minutes as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Baruah.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

5. Communications

A. Terri Giannola RE: Special Use Permit #17041 (Shine)

6. Public hearings-NONE

7. Unfinished Business

A. Zoning Amendment #17030 (Township Board), amend Sections 86-378 and 86-439 to allow golf courses to be counted as open space in the Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinance and Planned Residential Development (PRD) ordinance.

Commissioner Cordill moved to recommend approval of the Zoning amendment and read a resolution into the record.

Seconded by Commissioner Lane.

Commissioner Cordill commented golf courses are green and open space and the community is served well by allowing them to contribute open space in PUD and PRD areas.

Commissioner Scott-Craig said he did not consider golf courses to be open because they are not used by the general public, the zoning amendment would not apply to very many projects and questions of ownership could be problematic.

Chair Ianni voiced his support of the zoning amendment.

Commissioner Baruah stated she thought there needed to be clarification about who would maintain the open space if the golf course went out of business.

Commissioner Premoe said the zoning amendment would provide options for redevelopment that would not be possible without it.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YEAS: Commissioner Cordill, Lane, Tenaglia, Premoe, Baruah, Scott-Craig and Chair Ianni

NAYS: None

Motion carries: 7-0.

8. Other Business

A. Master Plan update

1. Okemos PICA

Senior Planner Menser reported there had been changes made to the map for the Okemos PICA based on objections from the Okemos Community Church. He said the Township added a disclaimer on the master plan stating the Master Plan is conceptual, not legally binding.

VOICE VOTE: Approval of Plan was unanimous

2. Photo selection sub-committee report

Senior Planner Menser reported the photo selection sub-committee had met several times, they had reviewed the photos in the Master Plan and had advised of some changes they would like to see to make the document more reflective of the community.

VOICE VOTE: Approval was unanimous

3. Next steps

Senior Planner Menser said the Master Plan should be ready for a public hearing by the second meeting in October which would have to be noticed publicly very soon.

Commissioner Cordill asked some questions about punctuation and grammar. Senior Planner Menser asked the Commissioners to email him any concerns they had over punctuation and grammar so he can correct or clarify them prior to publishing.

B. Shaping the Avenue initiative

Senior Planner Menser reminded the Commissioners about the September 14, 2017 open house which starts at 5:00 p.m. He stated the consultants from Shaping the Avenue would be there to answer questions about the project.

9. Township Board, Planning Commission officer, committee chair, and staff comments or Reports

Senior Planner Menser stated he would compile a monthly report to the Commission that would include: lists of new businesses, projects under consideration, projects under construction, projects submitted for but not approved yet and single family neighborhoods.

Commissioner Scott-Craig gave a summary of the Economic Development Committee meeting he attended on September 7, 2017.

10. Project Updates

- A. New Applications – NONE
- B. Site Plans Received
 - 1. Site Plan Review #17-97-16 (Saddleback BBQ), construct outdoor barbeque smoker at 1754 Central Park Drive.
- C. Site Plans Approved - NONE

11. Public Remarks

None

12. Adjournment

Chair Ianni adjourned the regular meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela M. Ryan
Recording Secretary