

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

## August 3, 2021

The Franklin Township Planning Commission held their regular meeting. Chairman Wise brought the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Present: Greg Wise, Doug Sherman, Jane Murphy, Gordon Whelan, John Krueger, John Hinkley, Jeff Fineske and Larry Shea. Absent: Joel Whelan. Also present: Bldg. & Zoning Official Bruce Nickel, Recording Secretary Sue Whitehead, and Twp. Supervisor Dan VanValkenburg. Chairman Wise began the meeting by giving his condolences to long-time Commission member Jane Murphy for the loss of her husband, Tim.

Whitehead read the minutes from the last special meeting (6/14/21). Hinkley moved to approve the minutes as presented, Sherman supported. Motion carried 8-0. Nickel updated the Commission that he is still waiting on documentation showing approval from the Lenawee County Health Dept. regarding Classic Cabinets & Interiors.

The Planning Commission addressed Hardy Farms Event Center that is operating out of a new barn facility on N. Wisner Hwy offering rentals for special events, showers, parties, etc. Nickel stated there is no conditional use or permitted use. Due to the AG exemption no inspections have been done on the barn (event center). One written complaint has been received by the Township siting that the facility is not ADA compliant and liquor is available. The Commission discussed wedding venues that barns are used for in other communities (Agri-Tourism). Currently, wedding venues are not part of the Township Ordinance.

The Planning Commission was in agreement that zoning needs to be enforced for Hardy Farms Event Center. Chairman Wise asked the Commission to research surrounding communities for barn wedding venues. The Planning Commission will address this again at the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Fineske said he would like the Land Use Plan to be changed to read: Evans Lake (Private), no boat launch, no public access, no marinas. Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Sue Whitehead, Recording Secretary