

**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Village of Bear Lake**  
**12376 Virginia Street, Bear Lake, MI 49622**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

**June 14, 2022**

The Planning Commission Regular Meeting was called to order by Chair Lynnes at 6:11p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll Call:

- Members present: Jack Lynnes, Barb Farfsing, John Virga, Char Myers
- Absent: Marla Evans
- Guests in person or phone: Jeanne Walsh present.

Lynnes informed the group that the Village Council has appointed Shelly Lynnes, hereafter referred to as S Lynnes, to replace Marla Evans on the Planning Commission. S Lynnes was not present.

Approval of the Agenda:

- Motion by Myers to approve the agenda with the following corrections- correction of a typographical error (**Coll/Call**) and the addition of the word July for the next meeting. Seconded by Lynnes. Motion carried.

Yes: Lynnes, Farfsing, Virga, Myers No: None Absent: S Lynnes Abstained: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

- Walsh asked how the community would be informed about the meeting on June 6, 2022 regarding the Lions' Building.
- Walsh commented that the only notice about the upcoming Open House/Meet the representatives of the Village Council and the Planning Commission, scheduled for June 17 at the DPW building, is the banner at the corner of Wise and Main.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- RRC: Farfsing reported that the regional representative has questions about having enough public parking in the Village.
- Master Plan: No update
- Survey Results: Virga reported on the survey, saying that the total number of responses received was 34. He presented the information in tables:
  1. Importance of each topic in the survey
  2. Ranked order of importance of each topic in the survey
  3. New Businesses Suggested-Bubble Chart

Virga will have copies of this report available at the June 17 event.

Additional information: a number of respondents offered to help with future projects. Virga and Lynnes will follow up.

Since Reduce Blight was the #1 concern Virga will develop a form for reporting blight and present it to the Village Council at the June 15 meeting.

Farfsing volunteered to contact the Land Bank about use of the vacant property at the northwest corner of Lynn Street and US 31.

Farfsing volunteered to contact the owners of the new ice cream shop and share the survey results. She will also ask about the possibility of adding a coffee shop to their scope of work.

New Business:

- Blight Ordinance: discussion about having the ordinance as a separate ordinance, not just part of the Zoning Ordinance. Upon further investigation it was noted that the Blight Ordinance is a separate ordinance and is posted on the Village website.
- Uses/Ideas for the former Lions' Den: the June 6 meeting was discussed including the proposed offer, sustainability, useage, fee structure.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

- Walsh volunteered to research and develop a fee structure for the Lions' building for consideration of the Planning Commission. Lynnes appointed Walsh to complete this task.
- Walsh quoted from the Bear Lake Bulletin an article, UNDER ALL is LAND, written by Barb Hood, realtor, regarding tax rates. She was asking about the Village and Township property tax rates and water fees. Discussion followed with Farfsing volunteering to contact the township regarding homestead versus non-homestead tax rates on vacant buildings. She will report at the July meeting her findings.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Myers. Seconded by Virga. Motion carried.

Yes: Lynnes, Farfsing, Virga, Myers No: None Absent: S Lynnes Abstained: None  
Meeting adjourned at 8:26p.m.

Submitted by Charlene Myers