

WRIGHT TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 19TH, 2021 – 7:30 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Dausman with the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer. Commission members present: Rich Dausman, Dan VanDyke, Steve Gray, Steve Van Timmeren and Brad Anderson. Also present were Township Planner Brian Werschem, Supervisor Rick Schoenborn, Attorney Jeff Sluggett, and Clerk Theresa Frank taking minutes.
Public present via teleconferencing was Bonnie Thom and Jackson with Design and Engineer.
Present in person was the Lawyer for Sanford, Rae Green, David Green, Alec Green, Matt H. and Hansen P.
2. No parking in the reserved fire spaces was announced. Dausman welcomes Brad Anderson as a new Planning Commission Member to his first meeting.
3. Election of Officers was added to the agenda as number 4.
4. Dausman starts the election of Officers as this is the first meeting of the year 2021.
 - a. VanDyke makes a motion to nominate Dausman as Chair, and Van Timmeren as Vice Chair, keeping the positions the same, Gray supports. Dausman asks for any other nomination, hearing none the motion is carried with all Ayes.
 - b. VanDyke makes a motion to nominate Brad Anderson as Recording Secretary, Gray supports. All Ayes, motion carries.
5. Van Timmeren motions to approve the October 19, 2020, minutes as written, and VanDyke supports. All Ayes, motion is carried.
6. Public Comments - Bonnie Thom requested that when the Board addresses the Ordinance # 5, Section 303.2, Temporary Housing to please make sure to add a time restriction, so that residents understand that they cannot keep the temporary housing forever. Dausman assured Ms. Thom that when they do get to the Ordinance her input would be taken into consideration.
7. Site Plan review for Green Castle Recovery Centers, dba Sanford Addiction Treatment.
 - a. The treatment center is requesting to add a new Special Use added to the Consent Judgement from the District Court in the County of Ottawa, that already is in place for the property at 15140-16th Ave address. They are requesting to add outpatient services to the already approved inpatient services. Also, they have a request to offer treatment of eating disorders. The Planning Commissioners job is to make a recommendation to the Wright Township Board to request the Court to change (or not change) the Consent Judgment to include the requests. The Township Board is the governing body to make the request.
 - b. The applicants gave the Commission information on what they do. Mr. Deams, the attorney from Sanford House introduced the applicants. Rae Green is a Master Therapist, David Green is the Chief Executive Officer, and Alec Green is the Managing Director. All are family members that run the family treatment centers.
 - c. Rae Green spoke to the clinical operations of the treatment center. They are a highly medical structured facility. A psychiatrist will be on staff, and there will also be a 24/7 nursing staff. Patients are occupied up to 12 hours a day. Alec Green spoke of working with the Township and safety. There are many cameras in operation at all times. A full-time security guard will also be on staff. The family run business is in no way related to the previous treatment center doing business at the building. They are working at the building 24/7 at this time to get the building remodeled. There will be a local job fair to hire locally for open positions. Alec would like to have quarterly meetings with the

Township Board to be partners in the community needs. It was also mentioned that Ottawa County just came out with their Certificate of Needs, and it revealed a need for more beds for psychiatric services in the county. Alec shared that an important note regarding the big need for outpatient services is that insurance companies will approve outpatient services for the client when they have denied inpatient services.

- d. Township Attorney Mr. Sluggett reminded the Board of the information in the Consent Judgement as it stands at this time. Patients can now be treated as an inpatient for drugs, alcohol, smoking, and gambling, but not for sexual addictions, and there is no request for treatment of sexual addiction.
- e. Dausman opened the meeting to Public Comment at 8:22 pm. Matt H. from Marne asked the applicants if any of the patients at the facility would be there because of a court order? Applicants said that they do not. The only caveat to that would be that the patient may have a Driving Under the Influence charge, but this relates to the patient's condition, and a document would be signed saying that the patient is in the care of the treatment center. Matt also asked how many residents are allowed. The applicant replied that the original Consent Judgement approves 160. Dausman asked if there were any other questions, hearing none he closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting at 8:23 pm.
- f. After some discussion VanDyke motioned recommending the Wright Township Board to ask the Court to change the original Consent Judgement to include outpatient service and to allow treatment of eating disorders at the treatment center. Gray supported. All Ayes and motion carried.
- g. VanDyke made a second motion to have the Planning Commission approve the original consent judgement to expand the use permit to include outpatient services and treatment of eating disorders as requested by the applicants. Gray supported. All Ayes and the motion carried.

After the motions were discussed, a recess was taken at 8:50 pm for five minutes. At 8:55 pm the meeting resumed.

- h. Anderson made a motion to approve the site plan for 60 new parking spaces and Gray supported with the condition that the State and the County Water Resource Commissioner approves the storm water management. All Ayes and the motion carried.
 - i. Because there is no impact to the buildings, the Fire Chief has already approved, but the lock box keys need to be updated and appropriate personnel contacts are given to the department.
8. Commission Members concerns.
There was some discussion about the Ordinance # 5, Section 303.2, regarding temporary housing. The Supervisor ask the Commissioners to review the wording that does not seem clear. Dausman asked if the other Commissioners want to discuss this at this meeting, or table it until the next meeting. They agreed to look at this at the next meeting.
There was also some discussion regarding the use of masks.
9. VanDyke motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. Gray supported. All Ayes and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

Brad Anderson
Recording Secretary

(any documents referenced in these minutes are on file in the Clerk's office)