

**Annual Report**  
**Williamstown Township Planning Commission**  
**April 2007- March 2008**

**Commissioners:** Michael Fielek(chair), Rex LaMore(vice chair), Gerald Eidt(secretary) Wanda Bloomquist(assistant), Ronald Cook, Rutgar Hoag, Ger Schultink, Rod Imhoff, Martin Wright (board representative).

**Staff members** Planning Consultants: Christopher Doozen and Zeb Acuff of McKenna Associates, Inc; Building Inspector Mark Miller

**REZONING**

None

**SPECIAL LAND USE PERMITS AND SITE PLAN REVIEW**

**Williamstown Township-07/17/07** For a Wireless Communications Tower with conditions.  
Board Approval: 08/07/07

**Bergdorf Winery-12/18/2007 and 2/19/08** Still under consideration with review by sub-committee.

**SITE PLAN REVIEW**

06/19/07 **Baird Arena & Riding Stables** with additional stipulations:

- Provide the additional required details of the proposed pond.
- Provide the agreement of conditions and limitations on the use of a riding arena in a format recordable by the Register of Deeds.

Board Approval: 07/10/07

02/19/08 **Hasemann Pond** with the following stipulations:

- The proposed pond is relocated 25 feet to the north, and so noted on current maps and plans.
- All spoils will be placed in non-wetland areas and stabilized to prevent erosion
- A shallow shelf, approximately 1.5 to 2 feet deep and 25 to 30 feet wide shall be constructed between the northern edge of the lake sedge area and the southern end of the pond.
- The size of the pond shall be less than one acre.

Board Approval: 03/05/08

**SUBDIVISION PLAT**

None

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

Zoning Ordinance: 04/17/07 Rescission of the Development Rights Ordinance in order to participate with the county plan. Board Approval: 05/01/07

Zoning Ordinance: 06/19/07 Removal of the interpretation that a canine training facility use shall be considered a like use. Board Approval: 07/10/07

Zoning Ordinance: 07/17/07 Agricultural Zoning. Changes necessitated by the Right to Farm Act. Board Approval: 09/11/07

- Adding '300 or more' animals to the definition of a confined animal feeding operation. This is consistent with USDA regulations and definitions. (Section 1.03)
- Adding 'used' to the list of actions relating to pesticides and GAAMPS. (Section 8.02N(6))
- Changing to 25 the number of turkeys and other fowl permitted per acre. (Section 8.02N(8a))
- Replacing 'feedlots and livestock confinement areas' with 'confined animal feeding operations' for consistency. (Section 8.02N(4d))
- Editing the manure management guidelines for horse stables and arenas to refer to GAAMPS. (Section 8.02CC, subsections 1d, 2d, and 3f)

### **Miscellaneous**

Pond Regulation- 11/20/07 Increase pond size to ½ acre before site plan is required.

Board Approval: 12/04/07

Parks and Rec Master Plan 2/19/2008- Adoption of the Updated Parks and Recs Master Plan.

Board Approval: 02/28/08

Joint Planning Commission Meeting – Meridian Township 06/26/07

Election of PC Officers- 10/16/07- Mike Filek as Chair, Rex LaMore as Vice Chair and Gerald Eidt as Secretary

Presentation by McHallam Development 7/17/07 for a proposed MSHDA Senior Housing Development

### **Approval of By-Law Changes**

**3.3 Status.** Planning Staff are not members of the Commission and do not vote. **A planning commissioner may serve as planning assistant.**

**4.1 Regular Meetings.** Regular Commission meetings shall be held at least once each month in the Township Hall. When the regular meeting date falls on an observed holiday, the Commission shall select a suitable alternate date in the same month. **A regular monthly meeting may be cancelled at the discretion of a majority of the officers of the Planning Commission at least 4 business days prior to the scheduled meeting provided there is no action to be taken by the Commission.**

**4.5 Agenda.** The Secretary shall be responsible to ensure that an agenda is prepared for each regular meeting and distributed to Commission members at least ~~(five)~~ **two** working days before the meeting.

**7.1 Annual Report.** After its last regular meeting in ~~(February)~~ **March**, the Commission shall make an annual report to the Township Board concerning its operations and the status of planning activities, including recommendations regarding actions by the Township Board related to planning issues. The Chair of the Commission shall make, or designate another Commission member to make, the report, the entire Commission having had opportunity for input.

**Grand River Overlay:**

5/15/07 Discussed potential language for an overlay district

10/16/07 Discussed overlay options and incentives

**Trails Workshop** 11/27/07. Presentation by Nancy Krupiarz from Michigan Trails and Greenways on the importance of trails and keeping residents involved.

**LEED Workshop** 10/23/07 Presented by Gavin Gardi from Christman Corp. on the importance, process and LEED standards for green building.