

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF HIGHLAND
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
APPROVED MINUTES
October 05, 2022

The meeting was held at Fire Station # 1, 1600 W. Highland Road, Highland, Michigan.

Chairman Gerathy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

David Gerathy, Chairman
Michael Borg, Vice Chairman
Anthony Raimondo, Secretary
Peter Eichinger
Scott Green
Robert Hoffman
John Jickling
(Alternate) Mary Michaels

Also Present: Kariline P. Littlebear, Zoning Administrator

Visitors: 0

Mr. Gerathy stated that he would forgo his usual introduction as there was no new business and no audience members.

MINUTES:

Mr. Raimondo moved to approve the minutes of September 21, 2022, as corrected. Mr. Eichinger supported the motion and it carried with a unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Gerathy opened a discussion of the bylaws, which were last approved in September 2009 and last discussed on July 21, 2021. Mr. Gerathy suggested that the board go over the bylaws section by section. Mrs. Michaels asked if the Secretary, the Vice Chair, and the Chair have any suggestions to their stated duties in the bylaws. Mr. Raimondo, Mr. Gerathy, and Mr. Borg stated that their duties seem correct. Mr. Gerathy stated that he would review the Open Meetings Act and suggested that the board members do so as well. The Board members have decided that the language of the bylaws are good as is but that there is a necessity for language regarding an alternate. Mr. Gerathy stated that he felt that alternates should be required to stay for the entirety of each meeting. Mrs. Michaels stated that she felt that an alternate should be allowed to participate in discussion of each case even if there is a full board and the alternate shall not be voting on a matter. Mr. Raimondo stated that a board member who has to recuse themselves and are supposed to leave the meeting and not give any opinion whatsoever. He questioned whether the alternate should be under the same rules. Mr. Raimondo suggested that the ZBA bylaws for other municipalities be referenced regarding their language for an alternate. Mr. Gerathy asked whether a ZBA member is allowed to contact the township attorney directly. Mrs. Littlebear stated that she believed that only staff is allowed to contact the attorney but that she would get clarification on that. Mr. Jickling suggested that everyone email their thoughts and ideas regarding the bylaws to all of the board members and staff and next meeting go over those ideas

to finalize suggestions so that they can then be presented to the township attorney.

Mr. Gerathy stated that he noticed that the August 17th approved minutes on the website have his name as introducing the meeting, but he was not at that meeting. Mrs. Littlebear said that she would check that.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jickling supported the motion and it carried with a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony Raimondo
Secretary
AR/kpl