

Paradise Township/Village of Kingsley

Joint Planning Commission Minutes

April 21, 2008 at Kingsley High School – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Village Planning Chair at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Paradise Township: X Case, X Conroy, X Geisert, X Hamner,
 Ex Sedlacek, Ex Tuller.

Village of Kingsley : X Alger, X Duffing, X Hinson, X Martin,
 X Smith, X Willman.

New Business:

1. *First Steps Service Grant*

John Sych – G.T. County Planning Director described that as a service grant offered by the Land Information Access Association (LIAA) of Traverse City through the Partnership for Change Program. The first step of this grant process would be to decide on a common ground project that is important to the Township, Village and school system. An application would then be prepared (John Sych offered to do a draft application) and submitted. Up to \$7,000 (with a 20% match) would be provided for their services in facilitating this common goal project. Some common goal projects mentioned were Trail systems and mapping.

Old Business:

1. Safe routes to school

Lynn Gullekson advised that this is an infrastructure & engineering grant offered through the Michigan Department of Transportation for “safe routes to school” within a 2 mile radius of the school for walking or bike paths. There are three steps in obtaining this grant:

- a) Send out a survey asking what is most important to parents. Most parents in the community were worried about “stranger danger”, narrow sidewalks, traffic and the railroad.
- b) Ask the community to do a walking audit with GPS systems & cameras to pinpoint areas of concern.
- c) The funding cycle is a 6 to 8 year period.

Most of the current funding is going to the Detroit/Flint areas that have 8 – 9 million in population.

The Joint Planners feel that a major area of concern is the speed limit of Kingsley Road at the entrance of the High School. The Commission(s) felt that a first step might be contacting the County to see if they would reduce the current 55 mile an hour speed limit. Nate Alger, Phil Hamner, and Lynn Gullekson will contact the County Road Commission.

2. Walkable trails

This is the area that the Joint Planners feel the First Steps service grant should be focused. Concentration area would be the trails system between Civic Center South and Mayfield Pond Park.

3. Update to Paradise Township Zoning Ordinance

Paradise Township Chair Mike Geisert advised that the Planning Commission is working on Private roads, mobile home parks and their Master Plan.

Any item deems necessary: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.