

Edenville Township
Zoning Board of Appeals
Informational Meeting
January 11, 2023
Unapproved minutes

6:02 p.m. Meeting called to order by Chair, Dennis Lewis

Attendees: Dennis Lewis, Chair, Jim Sperling, Township Trustee, Audrey Southcott, Vice-chair/acting secretary
Bill Carey, alternate, Tim Dana, absent

Other attendees: Mark Haydanek, Planning Commission, Terry Hall, township supervisor

Pledge of Allegiance

Jim wants to make MTA training mandatory for all ZBA board members
Dennis wants to discuss meeting schedule. Discussion about meetings being on Mondays to accommodate Tim's teaching schedule.
The first meeting of the board in January is supposed to be an organizational meeting when chair, vice-chair, and secretary will be voted on. This is an information meeting – no voting tonight.
Decision to have the organization meeting January 30 at 6 p.m. This will fulfill the responsibility of getting officers in place in January.

Discussion about number of meetings per year; there will be six scheduled meetings a year. If there is no business or appeal to be heard the meetings can be cancelled.

Discussion about ZBA budget - will alternates be paid to attend meetings? ZBA is short one alternate. Budget will be decided and submitted to township clerk.

Discussion about ZBA process and confusion about guidelines. Michigan Ordinance Enabling Act sets out process. Audrey distributes chapter of MTA Review Standards regarding Zoning Board of Appeals to board members and suggests the board read the information and consider using it as the ZBA's guide to be voted on at the organizational meeting.

Discussion about most recent ZBA decision re 7th Day Adventist variance request.

Terry contacted township attorneys and they told him the ZBA's decision will stand in court.

Haydanek argues the ZBA board didn't do its due diligence by going to the site and walking and measuring. Jim Sperling did walk and measure the site. Audrey drove into the parking lot and parked twice to look at the site. Dennis Lewis visited the site (Tim did inspect the site but is not at this meeting).

Mark Haydanek wants the ZBA to reconsider the church's variance request in another meeting.

Animated discussion/argument about ZBA following the letter of the law and not showing charity towards the church by issuing a variance.

7:21 p.m. Audrey moves to adjourn the meeting, Jim seconds.

Submitted by Audrey Southcott

Jan. 16, 2023