

## Wakeshma Township Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, January 16, 2017 7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chairperson Delbert Burr.

Members present: Delbert Burr, John Wright, Jerry Hamelink, Deb Brockway and Barbara Thole. Guests present were Lotta Jarnefelt from the Kalamazoo Metropolitan County Planning Commission and Marisa Laderach from Beckett & Raeder.

The minutes and resolution from the October 10, 2016 meeting were presented to members. Deb Brockway made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. It was supported by John Wright and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by John Wright and supported by Delbert to suspend regular business and allow our guests to make their presentation. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Jarnefelt presented a brief history and purpose of her county department. The county planning commission is different from the local planning commissions in that the county planning commission is a recommendation and review body. She explained that the last plan for the county was written in 1970. She recently received the approval to create a new county master plan. It is being modeled after the Grand Traverse County plan with the idea that this plan will be a resource that can be used by the local governments in the county.

Ms. Laderach added that this document will provide a bigger picture of areas like agricultural land, regional information, transportation and economic development, as examples. All municipalities could use this as a resource when reviewing their master plan as required by law every five years.

Ms. Jarnefelt and Ms. Laderach asked if there were any questions. The question was if the county plan would super cede local plans. The answer is no. They will not tell us what to do concerning our local plan. They will also not be doing any large surveys with the new plan.

There was some confusion with the dates and reviews of our master plan and these were resolved by referring to past minutes from the Planning Commission.

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There was a question as to whether Wakeshma Township has a future land use map. Ms. Jarnefelt will relay a future land use map to us when their plan is completed.

Ms. Laderach asked if the introductory paragraph from our land use plan is still correct.

Ms. Jarnefelt stated that there will be GIS Systems aerial imagery available on their website, [kalcounty.com](http://kalcounty.com).

We will receive a follow-up letter from tonight's meeting. The draft plan will be available on the project website. One suggestion by Ms. Laderach is that we may want to consider a quality of life statement in our master plan of our goals and objectives.

The presentation ended at 7:50 PM.

There was a motion by Mr. Wright supported by Ms. Brockway to resume regular business. The motion passed unanimously.

There was some miscellaneous discussion which included a question about when we will know which roads in the township will be up for repair this year.

There was a motion made by Mr. Wright supported by Ms. Brockway to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Barbara Thole

Secretary for Planning Commission