

**City of Allegan
Planning Commission Meeting
November 16, 2015
Griswold Auditorium
401 Hubbard Street Allegan MI 49010**

MINUTES

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm, by Chairperson Brad Burke.

2) Attendance

Present: Charles Tripp, Brad Burke, Nancy Ingalsbee, Stacie Gratz,
Thomas Morton, Dave Sturgis, Cindy Manning,

Absent: Peter Savage, Cindy Thiele

Others Present: Rob Hillard – City Manager, Andy Moore - Wightman &
Assoc)

3) Approval of minutes from August 17, 2015

Thomas Morton, made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Motion was supported by Stacie Gratz. Motion passed by acclamation.

4) Public Hearing – Master plan Update

Public hearing was opened by Chair Burke at 7:02P. Andy Moore outlined the plan and process for its development. Robert Hillard listed off the strategies to accomplish the plan as outlined. There were no additional comments. Nancy Ingalsbee, supported by Charles Tripp, made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:13P. Motion passed by acclamation.

5) New Business

A. Master Plan Update...Decision

Stacie Gratz made a motion to recommend to the City Council the updated master plan and resolution as presented. Motion was supported by Charles Tripp. Roll Call Vote: Charles Tripp - Y, Brad Burke - Y, Nancy Ingalsbee - Y, Stacie Gratz - Y, Thomas Morton - Y, Dave Sturgis - Y, Cindy Manning – Y.

B. Joint meeting Allegan Township...Any New Business

The Boards discussed the timing of the development of the new Township Master Plan, as well as non-motorized transportation opportunities. Discussion was held on the lack of County Cooperation in planning issues. It was suggested topical approaches with the County include partnerships with the Road Commission on non-motorized transportation planning, and also river corridor planning through County Economic Development. Discussion continued on a lack of success in the area of non-motorized transportation with the County Road Commission. The group discussed the importance of sub regional planning in the County, and the importance of the Township and City Planning Commissions to meet at least every six months. Members indicated their appreciation of the new Hooker Road Sidewalk and the attitude between the City and Township being so positive. Also, discussion was held on the previous successes regarding the Safe Routes to School, future MDOT paving on Marshall Street, and efforts to improve pedestrian routes near the high school and middle school. It was stated that alternative transportation possibilities will be more important in the future.

C. Two-way Hubbard St/Cedar St – American Red Cross Building

The Planning Commission discussed the opportunity to receive the American Red Cross Building, as part of an agreement to utilize the Griswold for five years. The discussion related to having a two-way street on Hubbard in order to provide a better gateway into downtown. Discussion was held related to Ely Street, and alternatives that might be developed in the future. The members supported the concept of improving the intersection, and the preliminary proposal with the Red Cross. David Sturgis, supported by Charles Tripp, made a motion to recommend to Council the pursuit of the American Red Cross building in order to improve the intersection and

provide for a two way intersection on Hubbard. Motion passed by acclamation.

6) Old Business

A. 2015/2016 Goals update

The Commission reviewed the goals and indicated that they have accomplished many of the tasks set for the year. Next meeting they would like to discuss strategies outlined in the master plan, and prioritize.

7) Communications/Correspondence- Jim Connell indicated his intention to participate in a Wings of Hope future ice bucket challenge with individuals from the community. Steve Schulz indicated that the next Township, Village, City Joint Meeting with Nora Balgoyen-Williams will be held the last Monday of the month.

8) Education – none

9) Public Comment – none

10) Commission Comment- none

11) Future meeting dates.....next regular scheduled meeting December 21, 2015

12) Adjournment

-7:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Hillard
City Manager