

PORTER COUNTY PLAN COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2021

The regular meeting of the Porter County Plan Commission was held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 in the Porter County Administrative Center, 155 Indiana Avenue, Suite 205, Valparaiso, Indiana. Bob Poparad presided.

Members present were: President Bob Poparad, Kevin Breitzke, Brian Damitz, Mike Mirochna, Luther Williams, and Ken Williams. Also present were Robert Thompson, Kristy Marasco, Attorney Scott McClure, Kelly Cadwell, Helene Pierce, citizens, and representatives of the press.

MINUTES:

Kevin Breitzke made a motion to approve the January 27 and January 28, 2021 meeting minutes as submitted. Mike Mirochna seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and unanimously carried 7-0.

COORESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

DP-20-0058 – Bethel Valparaiso Church Inc, Covenant Place Phase Two (Out Lot A) 100 North & corner of 150 East, Valparaiso, IN in Center Township in the IN, Institutional District. The petitioner is requesting to construct a 7,000 square foot Church building. Mr. Dean Sellers with Territorial Engineering presented. Mr. Dave Westforth, representing Bethel Church also was present. Mr. Bob Thompson advised the Development Plan was approved and waivers were approved through the Board of Zoning Appeals for sidewalks and landscaping. The square footage of the church exceeds that of DRC approval, so Plan Commission approval is required. Everything has been reviewed and all codes are met.

Q: Will the access be from Martinal Road?

A: Yes.

Q: Is the petitioner aware of the flooding that sometimes takes place under the viaduct on Sturdy Road?

A: Yes.

Motion: Mike Mirochna made a motion to approve DP-20-0058 as presented. Ken Williams seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried 6-0.

DP-21-0011 – Anthony P. Cunningham, Jr., Liberty Minor 1921-A-1, 879 North Calumet Avenue, Chesterton, IN in Liberty Township in the RR, Rural Residential District. Petitioner is requesting the vacation of a 30-foot portion of the “no access easement” in Liberty Minor Subdivision 1921-A-1 to allow for an additional lot to have access. Mr. Anthony Cunningham, Sr. and Mr. Bill Davies with Davies & Associates presented. They have presented previously but the plan did not work. Now they are requesting 30 feet of the no access easement of Lot 2 to be vacated so they can gain access from the north. They have reviewed this with the Planning Department and the Highway Department and both agencies are agreeable to the plan.

Q: Will the properties all have the same owners?

A: Yes.

Motion: Ken Williams made a motion to approve DP-21-0011 as presented. Mike Mirochna seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and unanimously carried 6-0.

STAFF ITEMS:

Mike Mirochna requested that masks and social distancing remain required during meetings regardless of any updates from the Governor’s office. Attorney Scott McClure noted that all County meetings and officials will follow what the Health Department mandates, however, individual Board may be more restrictive, but not less restrictive.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the March 24, 2021 Porter County Plan Commission meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Bob Poparad, President

Attest: Robert W. Thompson, AICP
Director