

White Oak Township Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Planning Commission members John Kemler, Aaron Graff, Missy Noll, Megan Redfern, and Ashley Andersen. Board members in attendance include Leela Vernon, Diane Graff, and Katrina Griffith – Zoning Administrator. Also in attendance was township resident Alan Baker.

Introduction of the Board: Introductions were made of the Board.

Approval of Agenda: Aaron made a motion to accept the agenda; Meg seconded. Agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: John made a motion to accept the agenda; Meg seconded. Minutes approved.

Review of Residential Outdoor Gun Range Ordinance:

Missy spoke with the DNR about a residential outdoor gun range and backstop requirements. She was provided with documentation for standard outdoor rifle ranges that can be adaptable for different intended shooting activities. The DNR documentation was discussed amongst the PC members. The DNR will enforce not having a backstop when target shooting. The backstop height and width were discussed more in depth. In the current draft of the residential gun ordinance, the backstop width requirements were deemed too extreme. On page three of the proposed ordinance, the discussion to remove section (E) (ii) entirely and remove the first line in the table on (iii). The suggestion was made to have the gun range backstop be 100ft from an adjoining property line.

Public Comments on Residential Outdoor Gun Range Ordinance:

Township resident, Alan Baker, suggested requiring a backstop for the residential outdoor gun range be three feet above the target. Further discussion led to suggesting that a backstop must extend three feet across from a target on each side. In addition, the range must have three feet of background above the target and the left and right sides both must have three feet coverage across the target (which concludes to a backstop being six foot wide, three feet of backstop to the left and right of the target). Section (E) in the draft ordinance shall remove (ii) entirely and move (iii) to replace (ii) in the ordinance. The table on page three was also removed.

Missy made a motion to accept the Residential Outdoor Gun Range Ordinance. Meg seconded.

A voice vote was taken, and the results are as follows:

John – yes

Aaron – yes

Missy – yes

Meg – Yes

Ashley – Yes

Motion approved. The Residential Outdoor Gun Range Ordinance will be submitted to the township board at the next meeting for review, recommending an approval from the Planning Commission.

Next Meeting:

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

Aaron made a motion to adjourn: Missy seconded. Motion passed. Meeting closed at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Andersen

Planning Commission