

Town of Merton
Plan Commission Meeting
Minutes of March 18, 2020

- Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Klink
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Klink
- Minutes of the March 4, 2020 Plan Commission Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Fleming/Griffin. Motion carried.

Present: Chairman Klink, Commissioners Griffin, Fleming, Morris, Jensen, Siepmann & Good, Planner Haroldson, and Deputy Clerk Claas

Absent: Attorney Chapman

Also Present: Chuck Whelan & David Whitley

Chairman Klink thanked the Plan Commissioners for coming to the meeting and stated there would be no Plan Commission Meetings in April due to the coronavirus and if there is something that needs immediate attention the Plan Commission will meet in a form that is safe for everyone.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Request by Rick Berger on Behalf of St. Teresa of Calcutta – to Install a Columbarium to be Located at the St. Teresa Cemetery (formerly St. Clare Cemetery) CTH Vv – North Lake – MRTT 0346-975-001 – St Teresa’s is planning on installing a columbarium in three phases with 108 urns. Typically, cemeteries have a conditional use permit, but this is an old cemetery so there is no conditional use permit. No state approval is required. The location will be outside of the shoreland jurisdiction area.

A motion to approve as proposed was made by Siepmann/Good. Motion carried.

Request by Chuck Whelan – W335N8953 Pleasant View Rd – to Rebuild an Accessory Building on 20 Acres with Multiple Existing Accessory Buildings (Referred by the Building Inspector) – MRTT0311-999-004 –The Building Inspector referred this outbuilding to the Plan Commission because of the amount of buildings on the property. When the parcel was recreated in 2016 the Plan Commission allowed them to keep all the buildings for farm use. Owner was instructed that he was not to operate a business in 2016. A building was blown down that he wants to rebuild in the exact size. It was originally an enclosed lean to. Haroldson asked if any buildings were going to be removed and requested an inventory of the buildings and the use of the buildings. Klink requested that he inform the building inspector which buildings will be removed in the future.

A motion to approve the request to rebuild the accessory building on 20 acres with the condition that he does the inventory of the buildings and submits it to the Planner and the Building Inspector with the option of the buildings he may take down in the future was made by Morris/Jensen. Motion carried.

Request of David Whitley – W308N6465 Cindy Lane – to Add a Second Entrance to his Property per Code 8.02 Highways & Driveways – MRTT0375-977 – Griffin stated this is a substandard road with the width only being 20’. Other than that, he doesn’t see an issue. The visibility is good. This is a Town road with approximately nine houses on it. Griffin clarified there’s only 20’ of pavement.

Haroldson asked Whitley to clarify why he needs the second driveway. Whitley stated that way the property is situated in the north/south orientation where the building is going to be built there is a pretty significant downward slope so access is not possible. Whitley clarified that he would be storing his personal boats, trailers, etc. in this building.

A motion to approve this request was made by Fleming/Siepmann. Motion carried.

Planner Update: Haroldson informed the Commissioners that Russo (retaining wall within 5' of lot line on Road O) and the neighbor worked it out and the terms of the Plan Commission's approval have been met.

Haroldson and Griffin met with the engineers for the Preserves on Beaver Lake and they were pleased with most of the information. There may be an issue with the cul-de-sac.

A motion to adjourn was made by Fleming/Morris. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly R Claas
Deputy Clerk