

PENINSULA TOWNSHIP
JOINT TOWN BOARD/PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE
3/22/18

Present: L. Serocki, M. Peters, I. Wunsch

Also present: N. Heller, C. Deeren, M. Nadolski, T. Oosterhouse, D. Edmondson, G. Hayward

Meeting began: 1:00 PM

Discussed Black Star Farm's request for increased processing and storage capabilities. Existing building is 20,000 sq feet; approximately 1,500 sq feet for tasting room. Request is for building on a foundation already on property; the new building would be 8,500 sq feet.

Committee discussed if this would be a variance for the ZBA to review, or if an ordinance amendment would be the path to follow. An amendment would enable all Farm Processing Facilities to have larger storage available. The size of the processing and storage building could be linked to the amount of active agricultural acreage: 10,000 sq feet for each 20 acres. Would also have to look at easement or subdivision covenants before Land Use Permit approved. If allow larger storage building, do not want that to become Tasting Room or Event facility in the future.

Staff directed to move forward with an amendment using a scale of 10,000 sq feet per 20 acres of active agricultural acreage on Old Mission. Would like to meet as soon as possible so that the concept and draft language can be introduced to the Planning Commission at the April 16, 2018 meeting. Committee was in agreement that as Planning Commission finishes up Zoning Ordinance review and Master Plan work, all levels of agricultural ordinances need to be reviewed by committee and growers.

Discussed marijuana facility and request by Cameron White at the last two Planning Commission meetings. Feel that Town Board should make a statement regarding Old Mission positions on all five steps of marijuana allowed in Michigan.

Discussed the different levels of short-term rental and where to go after PC meeting on 3/19/18. Need to hear from the attorney before move forward. Would still like to have a survey in the next newsletter with questions regarding tourist rooms and Country Inns.

Meeting adjourned: 3:11 PM