

**STILLWATER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
TOWN HALL – SEPTEMBER 6, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Chairperson Marilyn Cummings, Planning Commissioners Lee Busse, Lois Cutler, Doug Galler, Bob Ranalla, Rick Robbins, Troy Schifsky and Carole Yoho, Supervisors David Johnson, Town Board Liaison Jim Hiniker and Planner Berry Farrington.

**PUBLIC HEARING – DEKKER CUP – 7:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to notice in the Stillwater Gazette and to surrounding property owners, a public hearing was held to consider a request from Michael and Sharon Dekker for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow keeping of horses at a density greater than one horse per two grazable acres. The applicants propose to keep 3 horses in an area of approximately 3.5 acres. Made a part of the record are the names and addresses (2) of those present at the hearing.

Chairperson Marilyn Cummings opened the public hearing and introduced Planner Berry Farrington who reviewed the issues involved. The property is located at 12055 Boutwell Road North and is in the Transition Zone. The entire parcel is approximately 7.2 acres. She reviewed on a map where the pasture area is planned to be and reviewed the comments from the Browns Creek Watershed District.

There were the following questions and comments:

- Troy Schifsky – Who watches the manure management? Berry Farrington – It wouldn't be checked on unless there were complaints.
- Carole Yoho – Where is the manure composted? Michael Dekker – He pointed out where it would be.
- Schifsky – Is there a barn? Dekker – There is a building on the property which they will convert.
- Yoho – What kind of fence will there be? Dekker – Open wire, 4 foot and 5 foot.
- Marilyn Cummings – You don't have the horses now? Sharon Dekker – They are boarded.
- Lois Cutler – I applaud you for coming in and not just doing this.
- Cummings – How does the house to the south feel about this? Dekker – He does not know. Kathy Schmoeckel – They would have received notice about this public hearing.
- Schifsky – Have you been at this location long? Dekker – One month. They moved from Portland, Oregon.
- Cummings – Will you supplement their feeding? Dekker – Yes.
- Schifsky – Will this be checked on? Schmoeckel – Steve Nelson checks on CUPs annually.

The public hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING – PUBLIC HEARING MAILED NOTICE REQUIREMENTS – 7:15 P.M.**

Pursuant to notice in the Stillwater Gazette, a public hearing was held to consider a draft amendment to Stillwater Township's Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance to modify the distance requirements for mailed public hearing notice to area property owners. The amendment would make the Township requirements the same as Washington County requirements. No members of the public were present.

Planner Berry Farrington reviewed the proposed changes.

There were the following comments and questions:

- David Johnson – A significant source of irritation of residents is that they do not receive notification and that is why this issue should be looked at.
- Troy Schifsky – Who pays for the notice? Michael Dekker – The applicant does.
- Merilyn Cummings – We have also heard at the planning commission level that people have not heard about an issue.

The public hearing was closed at 7:20 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING – 7:20 P.M.**

1. AGENDA – M/S/P Galler/Robbins moved to adopt the agenda as written. (8 ayes)
2. MINUTES – M/S/P Schifsky/Robbins moved to approve the 6/7/12 Stillwater Township Public Hearing and Regular Meeting minutes as written. (8 ayes)
3. DEKKER CUP – M/S/P Busse/Galler moved to recommend approval of the Dekker CUP per planning staff recommendations. (8 ayes)
4. PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE REQUIREMENTS – The policy will still be followed to include more residents if it appears to be needed. The proposed requirements match the County’s.

M/S/P Robbins/Ranalla moved to recommend approval of the draft ordinance as written. (8 ayes)

5. WEBSITE/NEWSLETTER – Notice should be placed on the website and in the next newsletter that there are openings on the Planning Commission and the Park Committee.
6. NEW BUSINESS – There was discussion of openings on the Carnelian-Marine and Browns Creek Watershed Districts.
7. TOWN BOARD LIAISON REPORT – Jim Hiniker reported on recent Town Board activities.
8. ADJOURNMENT – M/S/P Busse/Yoho moved to adjourn the meeting. (8 ayes)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Kathy Schmoeckel  
Stillwater Township Clerk