

Town of Herman Planning Commission  
1/11/16 Meeting Minutes

The Town of Herman Planning Commission met at the Town Hall on January 11, 2016. Commission members present were Joe Thelen, Howie Schultz, Bob Korth, and Joe DeBaker.

Chairman Thelen called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM

It was noted that the meeting had been properly posted at the Gresham and Leopolis Post Offices and at Pederson's Bar.

The minutes of the last commission meeting were approved as e-mailed.

There was discussion about how to handle the statistical charts from Chapter 1. DeBaker suggested that a short statement that no significant changes in either the numbers or the trends shown in the charts have occurred in the last eight years be used instead of attempting to update the charts. DeBaker will check with Planning and Zoning to determine if they agree that there have been no significant changes in the data. Bob Korth agreed to prepare a draft for chapter one that captures the principles identified in previous meetings.

Joe Thelen led a discussion of the important points contained in Chapter Two: Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources. One point of discussion dealt with "promote the continuation of agriculture". While the commission members all agreed that we wanted to see agriculture continue in the Town of Herman, it wasn't obvious what the Town could do to make it a reality. It was pointed out that with the new Implements of Husbandry load limits law, there is a conflict between "supporting agriculture" and "maintaining roads".

It was noted that "Right to Farm" was not included in the original long range plan, but that this concept could be used to "support agriculture" and should be put into the updated plan. This probably needs to be included in the update.

Large scale livestock operations and animal density standards were discussed. These issues are covered by the new Zoning Ordinance and they may not need to be in our long range plan. It was also noted that Farmland Preservation Programs have changed considerably and references in the Plan probably need to be re-written. Grover had previously agreed to check into this issue.

The next meeting is on Monday Jan 25 at 9AM at the Town Hall.

Adjourn at 10:10 AM.

Joe DeBaker - Secretary