

YATES TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING FINAL MINUTES April 14, 2022 -5 p.m. EST

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

A Roll Call attendance vote was as follows: Vice Chair Evelyn Walker-P, Commissioner Lester Walker-P, Commissioner Janie Durban- A, Commissioner Julia Carr-P, Secretary Chris Grier-P, Yates Township Board Representative & Ex-officio Shawn Coffey-P, Chair Blair Evans-P.

A quorum was established.

Meeting protocols (Open Meetings Act & other directives)

Information from the public, in-person & zoom, for information pertinent to items on the agenda:

None were shared.

A reading of the March 10, 2022 minutes ensued.

Discussion: There was discussion and corrections.

A motion was made by Chair Evans & seconded by Ex-Officio Coffey to approve the March 10, 2022 Yates Township Planning Commission regular meeting minutes with stated corrections.

Membership update. Trustee Coffey reported about the "Planning Commission" agenda item on the Township Board agenda from their last meeting. Commissioner Janie Durban has moved out of the township. The Commission has not received a letter of resignation nor has the Township board sent communication to the commission.

Update to Planning Commission bylaws.

The sub-committee did not meet due to family situations with Commissioner L. Walker. Further, commissioners did not submit, to the secretary, any suggested corrections, additions, or deletions to the by-laws packet received.

Update of operating agreement between Planning Commission and Township Administration.

There still remains a significant disconnect between the township sub-committee and the Planning commission sub-committee wording. The township suggested "may" and the planning commission suggested "shall". We are awaiting the township sub-committee to get back to us.

Commissioner L. Walker asked for clarification about the legality of the Operating Agreement.

Chair Evans reiterated the need for this operating agreement is not only because of the issues of obstruction, but the township does not have any operating procedures in its offices.

Review of plan of work and meeting schedule given that there has been no action on the Operating Agreement by the Township administration Discussion

Chair Evans moved and Ex-Officio Coffey seconded a motion to suspend the commission meetings until the township gives a binding Operating Agreement. Upon receiving this agreement, chair Evans will call a special meeting to resume operations.

Additionally, Vice Chair E. Walker asked for a friendly amendment to include the following: we will have Commissioner L. Walker & Ex-Officio Coffey craft a letter to send to the supervisor to ask the lawyer if what we are asking them to do is legal.

There was much discussion. Commissioners Carr asked if we could get something done without the agreement. Secretary Grier gave his desire not to suspend the meetings but did not see any other way given the history of the township/commission relationship. Secretary Grier polled the commissioners regarding if they believed the documented five times the township “stopped the process of the commission” was not true. If any of them thought it was not true, would they speak now and make their objection public. Only Ex-Officio Coffey responded that he knows the information to be true.

A roll call vote was as follows: Vice Chair Evelyn Walker-Y, Commissioner Lester Walker-Y, Commissioner Julia Carr-Y, Secretary Chris Grier- Y, Yates Township Board Representative & Ex-officio Shawn Coffey-Y, Chair Blair Evans-Y. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments 3 minutes or less

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice-Chair E. Walker and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Meeting Adjourned at 6:21pm by unanimous voice vote.

Draft: Respectfully Submitted, Secretary Chris J. Grier

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blair Evans". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Secretary Blair Evans