

Planning Commission City of New Baltimore, MI

Annual Report CY 2017

In 2017, the Planning Commission reviewed and recommended to amend or approve four site plans. These included; SALU Harbor Oaks Hospital, SALU New Baltimore Trade Center (ongoing), Big Door Storage and TransNav Tool Storage. There was one Subdivision recommend for approval, Willow Creek Estates Site Condo Development. One lot split/combination Big Door Storage was also recommended for approval.

The Planning Commission strongly encourages and supports all citizens and business owners of New Baltimore to express their questions and concerns to the Planning Commission for review. Zoning ordinance amendment discussions and refinements resulted in the recommendation to approve; Text Amendment to LC, CG Districts, Replacing BT and CB districts, adding hospitals as SALU, Amendments to the Sign Ordinance. The Medical Marijuana ordinance was discussed and will continue to be at the forefront in 2018. Master Plan discussions and formed based code for our Historic Downtown were on many of the agendas in 2017. They were both approved and recommend for approval to Council coinciding with multiple new opportunities for the City of New Baltimore in the near future.

We also had discussions on the recommendation to relocate the Recreation Center out of Downtown. In addition, there were joint meetings with City Council, DDA and HDC regarding the Master Plan and a Master Plan Open House at City Hall.

There were three signs reviewed and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission including New Baltimore Plaza, First Baptist Church and Sunshine Plaza.

Thank you to Annette Girodat for her meticulous recording of meeting minutes and to Greg Nikkel, our zoning administrator and building official, for his support to us and to the applicants he advises. We appreciate the highly professional reports and recommendations from our Planners Karen LaVere and Rod Arroyo re; Giffels Webster who performed admirably in updating the Master Plan and form based code for our Downtown. Continued recognition goes out to our City Council Liaisons in 2017, Flo Hayman and Eric Haydamack, for their attendance and observations.

Lastly, my personal thanks to all of the Planning Commissioners for your dedication to this Commission and to our Community. Your individual observations and perspectives in commission meeting discussions encourages well thought out solutions that are best for the Public that we represent. Once again my personal thanks to Jack Daily for offering his assistance to our Commission in chairing the site plan reviews and attending the pre-planning meetings.

Michael R Wojciechowski
Chair - City of New Baltimore Planning Commission