**Meeting of the Windemere Planning Commission - June 8th, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairperson Dianna Sandstrom. Others present were Planning Commission members , Cindy Carlson, Clair Strandlie, Tom Albrecht, Dawson Gentry, Windemere Board Supervisor Heidi Kroening, Windemere Township Zoning Administrator Dennis Genereau and Clerk Cindy Woltjer.

**AGENDA :**

Chairperson Dianna Sandstrom called for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made and seconded to approve the April 2021 Planning Commission meeting agenda with additions of Solar Arrays, Campers, Blighted Properties and a Need for Possible Amendments to Ordinances . Vote taken. Motion passed.

**MEETING MINUTES :**

The Planning Commission meeting minutes from the October 13, 2020 and April 13, 2021 were read. Motion was made by Albright to accept the minutes with a change to not include absent Township Board Supervisors in the minutes. Seconded by Strandlie. Vote taken. Motion passed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT :**

None.

**ZONING DEPARTMENT REPORT :**

Windemere Township Zoning Administrator Dennis Genereau gave the zoning update. The Zoning Department has handled approximately 42 permits thus far for the calendar year 2021. There are 17 for shoreline restoration and the rest are for mostly garages, decks and storage spaces. Sand Lake Resort is moving ahead with their project of a 49 unit resort. There has been a request for a platt on the NE corner of Sturgeon Lake. The county has turned the septic for this over to the state for review before a variance can be made. Plans for a 3 season restaurant where the Red Oak used to be is moving ahead. The Toy Barn is adding an additional barn and possibly more storage beyond that. Questions were raised about drainage issues in that spot and Genereau said it was being investigated.

**Solar Arrays :**

Mr. Genereau reported that Windemere Township has no ordinances regarding Solar Arrays after some inquiries have been made by suppliers. He said both Pine County and Carlton County have ordinances and he would check into both and compare and report back on his findings.

**Campers :**

Recreational Campers/Vehicles were discussed. Mr. Genereau stated he was addressing properties with too many campers. Campers also should not be grandfathered in and setbacks for these also need to be met. He stated that park models are also structures. Some discussion was made about what structures should be hooked up to a sewer. Mr. Strandlie stated he will check on the cost of possible sewer hook ups.

**Blighted Properties :**

Mr. Genereau stated there were 3 blighted properties that were of concern. He has created a worksheet to give to the owners to help track their progress in cleaning up. Also too many unlicensed vehicles on properties are becoming a problem.

Mr. Genereau brought up a possible need for an ordinance for security/privacy fences over 4 feet in the township. He also stated a concern that there are home businesses in the township that do not or have never had a conditional use permit. He suggested a possible public hearing to change some ordinances.

**OLD BUSINESS :**

**AIR BNB/VRBOs :**

VRBOs located in Windemere Township were discussed. It was decided to change the name from VRBO to Short Term Vacation Rentals to avoid any confusion with the VRBO name. More research will be done before the August meeting so plans can be made to move ahead with updating the ordinances over the winter for the 2022 season.

**NEW BUSINESS :**

Mr. Genereau requested permission to ask Phil White to be his assistant to help him when he was busy and unable to be reached. He also asked if he could look into getting better signage for the township.

**ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION :**

None.

**ADJOURN :**

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Vote taken. Motion passed.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED : APPROVED :

Cindy Woltjer, Clerk Dianna Sandstrom, Chairman