

## **Grass Lake Charter Township**

### **Public Questions and Answers presented to the Grass Lake Township Board**

Q. Can you explain how the Planning Commission Board represents all interest in the community?

A. the Township Board goal is to appoint representatives from – Village, Township, Ag. Business, professional, engineering, including one liaison member from Township Board.

Q. Why does the Planning Commission have the power to make decisions rather than recommendations to the Elected Township Board?

A. The Planning Commission has the authority to decide on Special Use Permits (SUP) per Township Zoning Ordinance/ Michigan Enabling Act MCL 125.3502. All other recommendations are submitted to the County Planning Commission and the Grass Lake Charter Township for approval, denial, or revision.

Q. What is the process to become a member of the Planning Commission?

A. Job openings are posted. The Supervisor and two other elected official conduct interviews and make recommendations to the Township Board for approval. Terms are for three years. A Planning Commission member or the Township Board may request the member(s) to extend their term.

Q. Have females served on the Planning Commission?

A. In recent years there have been five females on the Planning Commission, two as Chairpersons.

Q. How long have current Planning Commission members served?

A. Three for two years, one for 5 years, one for 7 years, one for 9 years and one for 15 years.

Q. How much is the compensation for being a Planning Commission board member?

A. Planning Commission board members are paid per diem per attendance

Q. Can board members be required to explain their reasoning for the way they voted?

A. Board member decisions are based on legal issues, attorney recommendations and a professional planner advice.

Q. How are verbal complaints handled?

A. They are based on the type of complaint. In the past the complaint could be verbal or written. Currently only written complaints will be investigated.

Q. Who is responsible to handle documented complaints?

A. Usually the Supervisor or the Zoning Administrator handles complaints.