

Lake Township Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2026
Approved with corrections and so amended 9-17-26

The Lake Township Planning Commission held a meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 6:30 pm at Lake Township Hall (5153 Scenic Hwy, Honor MI).

Mark Janeczko called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Members Present; Mark Janeczko, Carl Lightfoot, Jackie Randall, Kyle Orr and Michelle Erwin.
Others Present; Maureen Jeannot, recorder; Josh Mills, Twp Zoning Administrator; also, about 10 township residents (sign in list on file).

Motion by Carl Lightfoot to approve the agenda, seconded by Jackie Randall. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Motion by Kyle Orr to approve minutes from the PC meeting July 9, 2026, seconded by Jackie Randall. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Public Input on agenda; Mary Ferens submitted a list of her review of the draft ordinance items needing attention related to environmental and lake protection. (on file)

Unfinished Business; Mark Janeczko spoke about items needing attention in the zoning ordinance draft. The dock language needs to be added. Other items need to be cleaned up; such as clarification of the definition of front yard for lakefront property owners and travel trailer storage and/or parking on properties. The public hearing is now scheduled for September 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

New Business;

Zoning Administrator, Josh Mills, spoke about a Planned Residential Development on property owned by Eldon and Dorothy Miller on Sutter Rd. Mr. Miller owns 40 acres in an R2 zone and plans to section off and sell 7 acres leaving 33 acres. The Millers currently have 2 dwellings and would like to build a third dwelling and create a family compound for their family. They would obtain a deed restriction to ensure only 3 dwellings would be built on the 33 acres. Mr. Miller spoke about his property and their plans for a family compound. Josh Mills spoke again. The Millers are asking for a permitted use that is allowed under site plan review by the planning commission. Mark Janeczko called for a vote, to allow forward movement of the site plan review, based on the conditions outlined in the memo given to the board members from Josh Mills. Jackie Randall: aye, Carl Lightfoot: aye, Kyle Orr: aye, Michelle Erwin: aye, Mark Janeczko: aye. Josh Mills and Mr. Miller were asked to provide the conservation easement and deed restriction document to the Planning Commission when completed.

Future Zoning Map – Mark Janeczko spoke about changes being made to the current Zoning Map. They include changing some properties on Deadstream Rd. from Commercial Resort to Residential and a small part of Chimney Corners changing to R2. (map image on file) There was also discussion of changing certain R1 districts to R2 if the owners agreed. Property owners will be notified.

Motion by Kyle Orr to accept the Future Land Use Map – with corrections of Chimney Corners and Riverside Canoe properties. Seconded by Michelle Erwin. Voice vote, all ayes, Motion passed.

Discussion about Section 5.2 Parking and Loading Regulations to change the number of spaces required for a roadside stand to 2 spaces.

Discussion about Section 9.1 Item C, Line 3 needing a definition for 'Rural Character', and suggestion to alter the language of Section 9.1 Item C, Line 3 to read as follows:

3. Demonstration of Rural Character Benefits. The applicant for a PRD must demonstrate that the PRD will have benefits to the township that will exceed conventional development by setting aside and preserving open space, natural features, or areas prone to environmental damage, ~~by providing recreational amenities, or by providing other benefits.~~ Such benefits shall emphasize rural character preservation and environmental conservation.

Announcements;

There is **no** Public Hearing on August 28, 2026.

There is **no** Public Hearing or Planning Commission Meeting on September 10, 2026.

Public Hearing September 17, 2026, at 6:30 pm over text portions of the zoning ordinance, followed by a Special Meeting.

Public Input;

Greg Magel suggests enhancements to promote dark sky and will send the board potential language to use.

Wilfred Swiecki commented that the docks and dockages zoning was not in the new draft. Mark Janeczko responded as to why the error occurred.

Mary Ferens is concerned about environment and lake protection. (Hand out on file)

Mark Janeczko commented that a new updated draft will be coming soon.

More discussion about CLWS and PLI overlays.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next Meeting/Hearing scheduled at Lake Township Hall: September 17, 2026 @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted

Maureen Jeannot, Recording Secretary