

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO  
TOWNSHIP BOARD  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
JOINT MEETING  
September 20, 2011**

A joint meeting of the Township Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals was held at the Township Hall. Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**TOWNSHIP BOARD:**

Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell  
Clerk Deb Everett  
Treasurer Nancy Culp  
Trustee Grace Borgfjord  
Trustee Dave Bushouse  
Trustee Lee Larson

**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

Millard Loy  
Carl Benson  
Kitty Gelling  
Fred Gould

**ZBA:**

Jim Sterenberg  
Neil Sikora  
Mike Smith

Also present were Township Attorney James Porter, Planning Director Jodi Stefforia and 4 interested people.

**NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY – UPDATE**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell provided an update of discussions the Park Committee has held with the Kalamazoo Nature Center regarding a more focused look at prioritizing areas of the Township for natural features preservation, the need for public education and seeking funding opportunities for these activities. There was also discussion of implementing natural feature preservation into the zoning ordinance where feasible. Consensus of the group was to move this effort forward.

**UPDATES**

**Building Authority** – Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised a group of four Townships had held preliminary discussion of forming a building authority for building inspection services.

**Township Park Redevelopment** – Park Committee Chair Trustee Borgfjord advised the contract for the Township Park redevelopment project has been awarded and the planned Phase 2 for next year's grant cycle will be able to be completed this year due to the project coming in under bid. A groundbreaking will be held on September 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

**Grange Hall Open House** – Park Committee Member Clerk Everett provided a brief history of the Grange Hall and advised a study is underway by the committee regarding the potential renovation of the building. An open house to gather public input will be held on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall.

**Master Sub Area Plans** – Planning Director Stefforia advised the Planning Commission will review draft #2 of the Century Highfield Sub Area Plan at their September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, a design workshop for the North 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sub Area Plan will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup> and one proposal was received for the implementation of the Genesee Prairie Area Sub Plan.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Supervisor Heiny-Cogswell advised three applications have been received for the Trustee vacancy.

She also advised work on the 2012 budget is underway.

Neil Sikora, President of Oshtemo Historical Society advised "Oshtemo Barns Day" will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Drake House.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**DEBORAH L. EVERETT**  
Township Clerk

**Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COGSWELL**  
Supervisor