

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF OSHTEMO
TOWNSHIP BOARD
PLANNING COMMISSION
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
JOINT MEETING
May 18, 2010**

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:	PLANNING COMMISSION:	ZBA:
Supervisor Libby Heiny-Cogswell	Bob Anderson	Cheri Bell
Clerk Deb Everett	Carl Benson	Neil Sikora
Trustee Grace Borgfjord	Kitty Gelling	Mike Smith
Trustee Dave Bushouse	Fred Gould	Jim Sterenberg
Trustee Scott McCormick	Terry Schley	
	Dick Skalski	

Also present were Planning Director Jodi Stefforia, Township Attorney James Porter, Fire Chief Mark Barnes and 7 interested people.

NATURAL FEATURES INVENTORY

Sarah Reding from the Kalamazoo Nature Center provided an update on the progress of the natural features inventory being conducted in both Township parks, which has been funded through a grant from the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. She also provided information on conducting an inventory Township wide.

REPORT FROM OPEN BURNING STUDY COMMITTEE

Ken Irish, citizen representative on the Open Burning Study Committee presented a recommendation that burning of leaves and grass clippings be banned in plats, condominium and multi-family developments. Discussion included alternative disposal methods, cost to residents, health concerns, number of burning complaints, enforcement and perhaps a survey could be conducted through the Township newsletter for further citizen input.

OUTDOOR FURNACE ORDINANCE

Attorney Porter advised concerns had come to light since the adoption of the ordinance regulating outdoor furnaces that some are used year round for heating hot water. There was discussion that prohibiting such a use would be difficult to implement.

KALAMAZOO CITY MASTER LAND USE PLAN UPDATE

Planning Director Stefforia provided information regarding the proposed update of the City of Kalamazoo's Master Land Use Plan, particularly the cemetery property and approximately 60 acres west of the cemetery on North Drake Road which is part of the City, noting the draft plan designates the area as Mixed Use. She further advised her discussions with City staff resulted in their concurrence that the area should have been designated as the 2005 North Drake Area Plan, agreed on by the City, the Townships of Oshtemo and Kalamazoo; a follow up letter from the Township will be sent.

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.

DEBORAH L. EVERETT

Attested: LIBBY HEINY-COGSWELL

Township Clerk

Supervisor