

# SUMMIT TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

September 20, 2011

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Raymond McQuillan, Chairman; Robert Simmons, Vice Chairman; Natalie Stopyak, Recreation Planning Commission Liaison; George Gancsos, Zoning Board of Appeals Liaison; Stephen Artz; Richard Erhardt and John Worden, Summit Township Zoning Administrator.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dennis Hackett, Secretary; Gordon Heins, Township Board Liaison; Jack Shelby

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The meeting was called to order by R. McQuillan, Chairman, on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township Hall meeting room at 2121 Ferguson Road.

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A motion was made by R. Erhardt, supported by R. Simmons, to approve the Tuesday, March 15, 2011 minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

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Case #11-08-0014 – Conditional Use Permit Group Day Care up to 12 children – 3800 Dormay Dr. – Lisa Riggins, Applicant/Owner – Tabled from August 16, 2011 meeting

Lisa Riggins, of 3800 Dormay Drive, was present. The applicant, a four (4) year day care owner/operator, currently has six (6) children in her day care business located at 763 Randolph Street in Jackson. The applicant is asking for a conditional use permit to run a group day care of up to twelve (12) children at her new address, 3800 Dormay Drive. The house has three levels, the third level will be used after 6:00 p.m., the main level will be used for basic educational introduction activities and the lower level will be used throughout the morning and afternoon hours. The applicant plans to retain her eighteen (18) year old daughter and the two (2) additional helpers from her current day care.

The Dormay Drive day care will operate Monday through Friday and every other weekend from 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., with plans to move the closing time to 8:00 p.m. in the future. Children between the ages of newborn to five (5) years old can attend. Most children are dropped off between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and picked up before 6:00 p.m. There can be up to three children being dropped off at the same time, so clients will use the driveway and the overflow will be directed to use the front yard for parking.

The backyard was supposed to be fenced by this time, but instead will be installed by Friday, September 23, 2011. The in ground swimming pool has a fence around it, and has been winterized by Pool Productions. The applicant is looking into getting a sounding alarm system that will be triggered if a child tries to get into the pool area. The children can access the pool through a lower level door that contains a specialized opening mechanism that requires twisting and holding down at the same time.

**Public Comment:**

Shirley Stimer, of 1625 Gary Paul Lane, spoke in opposition of the application expressing concerns with the health of the applicant in terms of running a day care with up to twelve (12) children.

Larry Stimer, of 1625 Gary Paul Lane, spoke in opposition of the application expressing concerns with increased traffic and the decrease in property attraction to homebuyers.

John and Renee Myers, of 1618 Gary Paul Lane, live to the north facing the back yard of the applicant, and spoke in opposition of the application. The Myers' expressed concerns over yard maintenance, outdoor day care clutter the strong desire to not live next to a day care and/or a business, the decrease in property attraction to homebuyers and blocked driveway access from parked day care clients.

Wendy Klintworth, of 1625 Foye Drive, spoke in opposition of the application expressing concerns of safety for her children due to increased traffic.

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A motion was made by S. Artz, supported by G. Gancsos, to recommend to the Township Board approval of a Conditional Use Permit for a Group Day Care up to 12 children to be located at 3800 Dormay Drive and that the fence be installed, locks be placed on all pool access gates and the applicant meets all State of Michigan group day care regulations. The motion was carried with one abstention by R. Erhardt.

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J. Worden handed out updated information on the proposed medical marijuana amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and requested the commission members review it and contact the medical marijuana sub-committee with their feedback.

The medical marijuana sub-committee consists of George Gancsos, Jack Shelby and Richard Erhardt, and they will meet before the next Planning Commission meeting in November.

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George Gancsos noted he was uncomfortable when a commission member asked questions on the health of the applicant. Other members agreed with this comment.

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A motion was made by R. McQuillan, supported by N. Stopyak, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

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John Worden, Acting Secretary  
Summit Township Planning Commission