

Adams Township Planning Commission

September 17, 2025 meeting called to order at 6PM

Pledge of Allegiance done

Roll call:

Chairperson: Martha Dugdale present

Secretary: Terry Parolini absent, excused

Member: Paul Eister absent, excused

Member: Sherry Kinnunen present

Member: Dan Coponen present

Guests: none

Approval of May 14, 2025 minutes

Motion by: Sherry Kinnunen

Seconded by: Dan Coponen

Public comment: none

Old business

1) Land use map is supposed to be getting updated by UPEA with more detail, Paul can fill us in at the next meeting.

2) Tony Arens met with Martha at the Atlantic Mine playground and discussed what we'd like done there. His building trades classes first fall semester project will be the pavilion. The students will also prep 30 donated fence posts and may be able to provide fence boards as well. Tony also mentioned the students may have enough extra materials at the shop to build a couple picnic tables for the playground.

3) the Township Board will have to decide what to do with Chris Deforge's property donation. The last Martha heard they were saying the Township had another lot close by that might be more suitable, already cleared off. May be able to get an answer to that at the next Township meeting.

New Business

1) Any suggestions for grant proposal projects would be welcome, Keweenaw Community Foundation will be accepting proposals till October 15th, guidelines are on their website.

2) Resident Marti Rashleigh called Martha to ask what we are doing to regulate short

term rentals in the township. She has concerns about property values, possible disruptive behavior by guests, and that these properties will change the neighborhood's character. There was discussion on this; at this time there is not regulation at the township level, the state is taking control of this issue. Not all residents are against this use of private property and it remains a somewhat contentious issue in many communities. Planning Commissioners with personal experience in the short term rental market said they haven't had negative reports on these properties.

3) Commissioners discussed the possibility of data centers coming to our area. The biggest concerns are water usage in regards to Adams Township water supplies and water sales, issues with noise that have been reported in other communities, and the negative effect on local electricity rates. We will continue to look at this from the standpoint of safeguarding the resources of the township.

Announcements:

Next meeting of the ATPC is December 10, 2025 at 6pm
at the Township Hall

Motion by Sherry Kinnunen to adjourn
Seconded by Dan Coponen

Minutes prepared and submitted by Martha Dugdale, Chairperson ATPC