Elk Rapids Township Planning Commission
Shen B. Smith - Secretary
PO Box 175, Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629
(231) 264-6665 Email – sbs@bokhara.com

July 5, 2007 – MINUTES

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Elk Rapids Township Planning Commission was called to order by Chairman, Emile Sabty, on Thursday, July 5, 2007, at 6:30 PM, at the Government Center, 315 Bridge Street, Elk Rapids, MI. Present: Emile Sabty, Shen Smith, Jim Lundy, Renee Mischel and Don Glowicki, Jr. Absent: Brian Altonen and William Larson. A quorum was established. Also Present: Len Harrett and Carol Brady.

Minutes – June Meeting: The minutes from the June/2007 meeting were reviewed with a correction to the following paragraph: "After further discussion on Amendment # 2007-3, a motion was made by Shen Smith, 2nd by Emile Sabty, to approve Proposed Amendment #2007 – 03 as amended. **MOTION CARRIED: Yes-4, No-2**." The correction being a change from 0 to 2 as a recorded no vote on the 2nd motion. A motion was then made by Jim Lundy, 2nd by Emile Sabty to approve. **MOTION CARRIED: Yes-5, No-0**.

Public Forum: No input from the public was received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Elk Lake Road – "A Scenic Highway" Standard & Chairman Sabty's Memo was reviewed in relationship to the Township Master Plan which established four objectives for the Elk Lake Road Scenic Corridor. The four areas outlined in the Township Master Plan are:

- Replanting of maple trees along both sides of the roadway;
- A bike path parallel and adjacent to the roadway that would be designed to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists, and which would be non-intrusive on neighboring property owners while offering meaningful connections;
- Greater setbacks from the road and natural landscaping to foster the preservation of the corridor's natural aesthetic; and,
- Preservation of agricultural lands along the roadway to the extent possible.

A consensus of the Planning Commission concluded to formulate a plan asking the property owners along Elk Lake Road to voluntarily support the replanting or replacement of the sugar maple trees in a concerted effort to maintain the rural, scenic and historic character of this corridor entry into the Township and into the Village of Elk Rapids. After further discussion, a motion was made by Emile Sabty, 2nd by Jim Lundy to table indefinitely all further discussion regarding Elk Lake Road Standards. **MOTION CARRIED: Yes-5, No-0**.

On-Site Lighting Standards: In keeping with the Antrim County Planning Commission's recommendation to provide stronger standards in the Elk Rapids Township Zoning Ordinance for on-site lighting for the protection of "Dark Sky", a consensus was to ask the Township Planner for a draft of suggested ordinance material which would cover not only commercial lighting but also residential lighting standards. Emile Sabty will submit several ordinances he has researched for Mr. Nix's review.

Township Roads Ending On Lake Frontage: Currently in the Michigan House there is a bill pending which might open township owned road ends to the public for the installation of docks. This pending bill has a significant bearing on Elk Rapids Township road ends and will be followed closely.

As there was no further business at this time, a motion was made by Don Glowicki, Jr., 2nd by Jim Lundy to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED: Yes-5, No-0**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shen Smith, Secretary