

## Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2025, 10 EST Village

Hall, Village of Michiana

### Attendance:

Commission Members: Mike Botelho (Council Liaison), Kathleen Hogan Morrison, Maureen Shekleton, Julie Bonello (Chair), Ron Rossetto, Karen Syzp

Task Force: Seymour Turner (Zoom)

SWMPC: Marcie Hamilton (Zoom)

Others: Rochelle Mayfield, Sally McDonald, Caroline Rogers, Lisabeth Hayes, Ned Morris, Roxanne Martino, Pamela Schutt, Colin Foy

1. Chairperson Bonello called the meeting to order at 9am CST. The meeting agenda was reviewed
2. Chairperson Bonello addressed the attendees about the process that was followed to develop the Master Plan stating that collaboration, collegiality, and transparency were guiding principles applied throughout the process. She thanked the members for their hard work and commitment throughout the process. She emphasized that the strategic work plan goals and objectives were data driven and can be used a model for future work in the village. All data collected during the assessment phase remain available for future work group use in the same manner that data on short term rentals in the village were delivered to the group currently working on this issue. She clarified for all the attendees that implementation of the plan becomes the responsibility of the Village Council once it is fully approved. Council liaison Botelho will work with the Council members to conduct the regulatory approval process once the Master Plan is approved by the Council.
3. Minutes from The September 3, 2025 meeting of the Planning Commission were approved as distributed.
4. Planning Commission Bylaw approval was deferred to a later date so that revisions from the village attorney could be addressed.
5. The process for development and approval of the Master Plan was described in more detail for the audience. Commission members shared their observations about the plan development and final product. All questions and comments from the attendees were addressed throughout this discussion. A question about placing the draft copy on the website will be addressed by Liaison Botelho at the Council meeting. The group indicated that was acceptable as long as the format did not allow changes.

Motion: Ron Rossetto moved and Kathleen Hogan Morrison seconded that

***The final draft of the Village of Michiana Master Plan be presented to the Michiana Village Council at the 11/14/25 council meeting for their review and action.***

The motion was approved unanimously. Liaison Botelho and Chairperson Bonello will distribute the plan at the Council meeting.

6. Discussion about the Vision statement was led by Karen Szyp. Suggestions were made for changing wording as future revisions are suggested throughout the regulatory approval process. The current statement reads as follows with suggested revisions are highlighted in parentheses:  
*Michiana embraces a future that honors our (the)past, protects our(that) future, and strengthens the bonds that make Michiana (our Village) a treasured home for generations. We (are) commit(ed) to preserving the serene beauty of our Lake Michigan beaches, lush tree-lined landscapes, and quiet, small-town character through (by) safeguarding our community, protecting our environment and enhancing our public (spaces and) services and parks*
7. The regulatory requirements and timeline of the approval process were reviewed:
  - a. Submitted to Village Council November, 2025.
  - b. Council acts on approval for distribution and public comment at December Council meeting. Any suggested revisions will be submitted to Julie Bonello then to SWMPC for distribution per regulatory requirements during a 63 day period which ends mid-February, 2026. SWMPC will compile any comments received and resubmit to the Village Council for final approval in March, 2026.
  - c. A document describing the regulatory process and tentative timeline for adoption will be shared with the Village Council by Council Liaison Botelho.
8. Public Comments were addressed throughout the meeting. A printed copy of the plan was viewed by attendees.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am