

# MORRISON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

August 3, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.

## MINUTES

The Morrison County Planning Commission held a public hearing and regular monthly meeting.

Regular Members Present: Clint Kathrein, Brent Lindgren, Dave Stish, Marvin Trettel and Dave Brutscher

Regular Members Absent: None

Commissioners Present: Greg Blaine, Mike Wilson Jeff Jelinski and Mike LeMieur

Commissioners Absent: Randy Winscher

Ex-Officio Members Present: Amy Kowalzek and Sharon Peterson

Chairman Clint Kathrein called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. Michael & Jacleen Skroch – 1242 150<sup>th</sup> Ave; Bowlus, MN 56314 – Application for an After the Fact Interim Use Permit for a Home Extended Business to process maple syrup products; located in N ½ of SW ¼ of SW ¼, Section 28, Township 127, Range 29, Two Rivers Township.**

Michael & Jacleen Skroch were present

Amy Kowalzek entered into record Section 604.8 of the Morrison County Land Use Control Ordinance, a plat map with parcel location, the After the Fact Interim Use Permit Request, Interim Use Criteria Questions, site plan, three (3) aerial photos of the property, staff report, permit for shed, site plan from the permit, current on hold permit request for shed additions, article from the Morrison County Record about the business, Flyer with information about the business, and suggested conditions if approved. There were 24 notices sent to neighboring property owners. One comment was received prior to the hearing with no issues with the request. Amy entered the Interim Use Criteria Questions.

Marvin Trettel asked if the property owner has the State permit that is needed. Michael Skroch stated he did, and he will send it to Sharon Peterson.

Dave Stish asked who does the review process for the business? Michael Skroch stated the Department of Agriculture inspects the business once per year. They have a check list that they use. They are looking for sanitation, cleanliness, the bathroom, the bottling process and insect and rodent protection. The State asked us to start keeping records of all the business we do last year. Dave asked if there are other areas that the trees are tapped as well. Michael stated they also tap the neighbor's trees across the road.

Brent Lindgren stated that the business started in 2005 and what does the future of the business look like? Michael Skroch stated they were surprised to be where they are at today. Did not think it would take off like it did. We are comfortable in where the business stands today. We just need more room for the bottles and barrels of syrup. Brent asked if the business is seasonal. Michaels stated they process for about six months. Brent asked if there is an increase in traffic. Michael stated he does not think so. We do have an open house once per year.

Amy Kowalzek asked if they needed a commercial kitchen. Michael Skroch stated they did not. All of it is controlled by the Department of Agriculture and all is done on site. Amy asked about the open house. Michael stated they hold this once per year and just give tours and samples of the product.

Clint Kathrein asked why is this an after the fact application. Michael Skroch stated they built the shed in 2005 for personal storage. I got laid off in 2009 and started to tap the trees on our property. The business just

grew from there. We did not know we needed a special permit from the County for having the business.

Audience Comment: None

Dave Brutscher asked about the holding tank for the business. Michael Skroch stated they will be putting in a new holding tank for the bathroom and separate the waste water. Dave asked how much product is processed each year. Michael stated about 1000 gallons per year.

The voting sheets were polled.

A motion was made by Dave Stish to recommend approval of this request including conditions. The motion was seconded by Brent Lindgren. The vote was all in favor.

The application will go in front of the Morrison County Board of Commissioners on August 10, 2021.

The public hearing was closed at 6:43 p.m.

No minutes were available for approval.

Correspondence – None

Old Business – None

New Business –

A motion was made by Brent Lindgren to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Stish. The vote was all in favor.

With no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kowalzek, Appointed Secretary  
Morrison County Planning Commission