

Transcript from Leland Township Planning Commission Meeting

November 5, 2025 at 5pm

Leland Township Library, The Munnecke Room

Planning Commission Members present: Ross Satterwhite, Sam Simpson, Skip Telgard, Steve Scales

Zoning Administrator present: Tim Cypher

Administrative Assistant present: Andrea Bufka

Attendees: An attendee counted 56 persons present as the meeting was called to order. This number grew as the meeting continued. Among those present were Apollos applicants Jim VanSteenhouse (Apollos LLC/property owner), Todd Cramer (Executive Director Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ), Micah and Kya Cramer ("Leeland [sic] Campus Life Directors"/Leelanau Youth for Christ/Leelanau Lighthouse), Robert Parker (Attorney for Apollos LLC), and Misty Dawn Cramer (Micah's mom and Todd's partner). Among the more than 56 participants were also Leland Public School teachers, parents, minor-students, and a school board member.

A routine monthly meeting began at 5pm and included several agenda items. What follows is a transcript of the Apollos Properties LLC/Youth for Christ portion of the meeting, prepared by attendees with audio recordings of the meeting.

Ross Satterwhite: Ok with that we're going to move to item number two in new business, that is the Land Use Application from the Apollos, am I saying that correctly, Apollos Properties? We'll start with public comment. This is not the meeting where this issue could be approved or not approved. This is the meeting where the Planning Commission can get information, ask the applicant, see if the applicant has any questions about the desired approval, and then um we... the logical outcome is for these types of things is we set a public hearing, notify the neighbors that would be affected by it, have a regular public hearing. This is an informational meeting. [inaudible] So, ah, let's start public comment. Say your name and where... your address, and speak loudly [inaudible] into the mic.

Public Comments (1:30 in related Audio File A)

Anna Hogan, Leland Township: Hello. Good evening my name is Anna Hogan and I'm a homeowner in Leland, just down the street here. I'm speaking tonight regarding this application for the special use permit for the Lighthouse YFC to operate as a club in the core business district downtown. First and foremost I want to quickly say that I absolutely respect the right to gather and worship. My own personal history is rooted in ministry in this County—my late grandfather having been a reverend at the Lutheran church for many years. I believe that our faith-based communities are part of the heartbeat of what makes this... Leelanau County so great. And I know that the specific teens involved in this group are all awesome kids with very heartfelt intentions. So all of that aside, the critical question really in this application is: is this the location for this type of assembly? I personally don't believe so, and I'm concerned that the proposed use conflicts directly with the Village's established character as detailed in the C-1 zoning intent. While our core business district does contain necessary services—a bank, offices, grocery store, and other outlets serving the local community—this central, high-visibility storefront is zoned and utilized to support tourism and commerce. The retail and visitor experience is the engine of our economy. Allowing a non-retail, non-service, non-tourism focused assembly use in this premium retail location sets a precedent that I believe alters the intended function of our core commercial area, and a youth assembly group is clearly distinguishable from essential lower-impact services currently present. I also ask the Board to closely scrutinize that the applicants fit under the definition of a “club” for this application, the language defines a club as “an organization of persons for special purposes, for sports, science, literature, arts, politics, or similar activities.” Does a religious youth assembly, which is focused on worship and ministry, truly fit the intent of this definition of a club? “The similar activities clause,” I don't believe should be used to bypass the core purpose of this Zoning District. I believe the proposed use is an intrusion into this high value, extremely visible, commercial area, and doesn't contribute to, and I actually believe dilutes, the essential blend of retail, art, historical experiences, and other natural beauty—reasons that people really specifically come to Leland to enjoy. So really a question about if this is the right place or if there is another location within the Township or within the County that would be more appropriate.

Satterwhite: Thank you, Anna. Any other public comments related to this application?

Larry Acker, Leland Township: Good evening. My name is Larry Acker. I am a resident of Leland, and I have looked at the application for the purpose of trying to understand it. And since we say that this is an informational meaning I went in search of documents to substantiate some of the content of the application that you have

received. I'm an attorney. I contacted the Youth for Christ National office in an effort to find out if we can have documentation and if in fact there is a club affiliated with you for Christ USA, because that's what they advertise in the *Enterprise*. The 888 phone number in the *Enterprise* ads leads to Todd Kramer's offices in Port Huron. I spoke to his secretary trying to get the same information. "Can I see the charter for the club? Can I see the license for the club? Can I see anything that documents that you are in fact a club, and that you are in fact affiliated with Youth for Christ. Lengthy conversation on the phone with Mr. Matt Ridgely in the Maryland office of Youth For Christ USA. He told me he is the Vice President of Legal Resources, he is not an attorney. I was informed that any internal documents regarding the organization, any Bluewater Thumb documents, any national code of ethics, any financial documents related to their objective, the mission statement, ethical standards, supervision of this club, and I was told that they were not available to the public and would not be. They consider those to be internal documents that are not shared with anybody. So I would suggest, as this informational search goes forward, that either the applicant voluntarily produce the documents or the commission [inaudible] has the authority to do so, makes that request.

At the moment, I don't understand, cannot locate any substantiation for the use of the word "club." This afternoon, I repeated the effort to see if perhaps the Bluewater Thumb website or the Lighthouse website had been updated. They have not. You cannot find the word "club" on their websites. I do not think this is a club. I think it's exactly what the previous speaker said. It is similar to a church, in disguise on the application as a club.

Satterwhite: Thank you Larry. Any comments? Would anyone else like to make a comment during the *public* comment period.

Nell Revel-Smith, Leland Township (from the audience): Ross?

Satterwhite: Go ahead.

Revel-Smith: I'm just wondering if everybody here had the chance to go through the area where this "club" is and see where it looks like compared to what it used to look like? I think everybody in the community should look.

Satterwhite: So would you be kind enough to stand up. And your name.

Revel-Smith (from the podium): Nell Smith. I think everybody should go and look and see what has happened. And instead of all these beautiful stores with flowers and everything else that's always there, it's now, it looks like a basement. It just is unfair to the [inaudible]. My husband and I were longtime renters here. My children are renters.

We feel like we put a lot of time and effort into the welfare of this community and it just doesn't feel right to me. Thank you.

Peter Miller, Leland Township: For the record, as many of you know I'm Peter Miller and I'm here with my wife, Lisa. We're residents of Leland, and my office is maybe half a block from the proposed location, 201 North Main. We are here to express enthusiastic support for this proposal, with no qualifications whatsoever about either the Youth for Christ organization or this proposed location. Leland, simply put, needs a place like this for young people to gather. I've studied the application materials, spoken with the people involved, familiar with the zoning ordinance. I believe that the proposal is remarkably consistent with the ordinance and the neighborhood, and the [inaudible]. More important, maybe most important to me and I think also to Lisa, is we've come to know pastor Micah and Kya Cramer. We consider them good friends. They are loving, caring, [inaudible] individuals, dedicated in their faith, and dedicated to this community. It's a beautiful thing. We're glad they're here, and we wish we had more people like that. This is..they're the sort of people that can really help to build community into something important and good. It also occurs to me as a little bit of an irony, on a different note. Part of the space where they're proposing to have this activity is, ah, currently a distillery tasting room, and I love that. I've enjoyed tasting bourbon in that very place. That's a place where adults can gather. It would be a sad irony if the Township doesn't include that space [inaudible] young people can gather. They certainly [inaudible] gather at the distillery. So we need a place like this. For our young people and they have our full support. I'm asking, please when it comes time, approve this proposal.

Satterwhite: Thank you. Anywhere else who'd like to public comment? Okay. We'll close the public comment of this agenda item and, ah, move into the Presentation of the Applicant.

Applicant Presentation (12:05 in related Audio File A)

Jim VanSteenhouse: My name is Jim VanSteenhouse. I guess with public comment you all know why I'm here. Some of you may know me as the Bear Man. Some of you may not know *why* I'm called that, but, uh. In 2015, I was attacked by a grizzly bear in the Northwest Territories of Canada. The bear was fine, it didn't end well for me. (long pause) It radically changed my life. I had business in Houston. We operated in 27 states with 47 offices. Over \$3 billion dollars in sales. And I stepped away from that to do ministry. So then the question was, do we want to live in Houston? Where do we want to move? You can go anywhere. We looked around for many, many years. I had a friend, and I took a walk at the Whaleback. I met the Hearnese. And I walked through this town.

And when my wife and I were walking through this town (*pounds podium with his hand*), we looked at the Leland Public School, and my wife and I saw two little girls, third/fourth grade, walking down the street, hand in hand, after school, obviously going home. And there was no, there was no parent. And we just sat there and we watched. We pulled the car over and watched. That doesn't happen in Houston, Texas. This home was going to be a vacation home for us, a possible retirement home. And when my children were in the eighth and the ninth grade, respectively, 18 months apart, or the 10th grade—excuse me—we decided we wanted to raise our children here in this town. If you looked up the most unpopular (*bangs podium again*) man in the dictionary when you move kids out of high school? 1700 miles north, man, you'da have seen my picture. But if you ask my children today (*bangs podium*), my daughter graduated, she goes to Grand Valley, she stayed in state (*continues to bang podium*). If you ask my children today, (*more banging*) one of them's sittin' right there. If you could go back in time to June 2022 (*additional banging of the podium*) when we decided to move here, and you could hit the reset button, would you go back? As much pain as they went through. They would stay. And as we moved here, and got acquainted with everybody here, what we noticed was some missing faith-based initiatives with our children. We had that in Texas. And I knew we had it here in Michigan. How did I know that? I was raised on the east side of this state, in a farming community rotation crops. My brother in law, Todd Cramer, who is here tonight, has been with Youth for Christ for 24 years. He's seen more kids accept Jesus Christ as their lord and savior than I probably ever will. And I called him on the phone and I invited him to my house. He had no idea why he was coming. And I took him around town. And I said, "Todd, what did you do on the east side of the state, the Lord's leading me to do it on the west. I said "can you get on more?" He says, "Yes." I said "Perfect, I would like you to oversee it as the manager." He said, "I can do that." I said "I have one more thing." I said "I prayed about who can run this and I want your youngest son, the youngest of five boys." This young man came out of the *womb* with the Bible. [inaudible] He looked at me and said "it'll never happen." His brother worked for me. I asked his brother, his brother said "it will never happen." He called his other brother in Grand Rapids and said "it'll never happen." I brought him up here. I walked him through Leland Public School, Suttons Bay School, Northport School, and I said, "if we don't teach these kids about the saving grace of our Lord and Savior, who's gonna do it?" And he took the job. (*Vansteenhouse is pounding the podium again*). And we've trained him well. And what I think this community needs exactly as Pete Miller said, is a youth center for these children. How did that come about? I was at a dinner table, sitting next to Pete Miller and his lovely bride. And I was explaining to him the vision of forecasting the vision of what the Lord was putting on my heart. And he says, I've got the place for you. And we did it. You may look in those walls right now, and you may see something that appears ugly. Let me tell you what it says to me. What is inside of that building, and I encourage you to go look at hundreds and

hundreds and hundreds of scriptures! ...from the children in this community and Sutton's Bay and Northport! Ladies and gentlemen's not ugly, that is God's music. That is harmony. What you don't know what's going on with that building? We will be in front of these guys again. There's a multimillion dollar project to internally turn that into something incredibly special. And no it is not a church. I could not agree with you, otherwise we would both be wrong. (*Dramatic pause*). This place is amazing, and I hope as we go through the special use permit, you will see what we're talking about. We are not a cult. All you got to do is call me and ask me. What are we doing? The one mistake that I made, I will stand in front of here and tell you today, the mistake that I made is this thing took off so fast these kids were pouring it! Talk to me, but what are you talking about? Who is Jesus? Who is this? The one mistake I made is I didn't communicate to the parents fast enough. That's on me. That is my fault. If you want my number to tell me how angry you are, call me. I will have coffee with you. It is not Micah's fault. It is not Kya's fault. They don't deserve the 87 signed form letters that they got *spewing* vile thoughts and comments, similar with Mr [inaudible] said. You want to do that? I'm right here. But stick the knife in my throat. Don't put it in my back. What I would like to do before we get into the questions rather, specialty use, is that Todd Cramer come up here and kind of explain to you the vision of where Youth for Christ was, how it started, where it is, and where it's going. Todd?

Todd Cramer: Thank you! I'm Todd Cramer, as Jim described. And I just want to cover three brief things with the Commission. One is: What is Youth for Christ? Youth for Christ started 80 years ago. There were two guys in Florida fishing. Billy Graham and Torrey Johnson. And they're worried about, what are we going to do with all these young men coming back from World War II and how are we going to evangelize for them? How are we going to help them? And they came up with this idea of let's start an organization to reach these folks called Youth for Christ. That's 81 years ago. Billy Graham was the first paid full-time employee, and you know his history, Crusades and he started with Youth for Christ and he went on to his own path that we're very familiar with. Youth for Christ was a 501 C3. Youth for Christ is a international organization. In the United States we have YFCUSA that is chartered under YFCI. There are 120-plus chapters in the United States. A chapter is assigned a certain geographic area, where I'm at across the state I have three counties that I'm responsible for. That's my chapter called Bluewater Thumb. And there are, as I said, 120-plus of these chapters cross country, there are 10 in Michigan. And what we'd like to do is start number 11 in Leelanau County. And so I served, as Jim mentioned, 24 years in YFC, Jim inquired about what's the possibility of getting this ministry going in this County? We had conversation. I was very familiar with the area. Honestly, my brother in law lives here. I have a son that lives in Maple City, I have another son that lives in Traverse City, and I didn't know he was going to hire my son, Micah, but I tell you what, I think he made a pretty good hire. He

and his wife are very, very equipped to do what we're asking them to do in this town. So being familiar with the area, I did say to Jim "yes, I can help oversee a launch." Communicated with our folks up the chain at YFC USA. Got their blessing. And so it's very common as Youth for Christ grows across the country, this is what it looks like. An area expresses interest, we try to figure out who is the best to oversee them, to give them guidance, and then we go ahead and set up that relationship. So what's currently happening is that Micah spent six months getting trained in our chapter, so he was down in our chapter doing all the things that Campus Life people do, that Youth for Christ ministry does, and he was trained. He's now part of a cohort learning experience through YFC USA. Obviously, he's got a bachelor's degree in marketing, he's got some biblical background. Part of that degree from Grace Christian. And so I'm serving as a liaison with our national office, helping to equip and help these guys get started. I also supervise Micah, consult with Jim and the other adults from this community that are part of their support group that they're building. This is in infancy. It's growing. It's been here for about 18 months. We have weekly calls, [inaudible] planning meetings. We're assisting them in the development of local structures to help them stay solid and true to the mission. They have weekly prayer groups. They're forming a regional leadership team and I'm assisting them in that process, so let's that's the role that's the role that I play, assisting them in getting ready to become hopefully the 11th chapter in the state of Michigan. And so it is *common* for Campus Life programs. I give you just a brief background Youth for Christ USA has different ministry models. We have Juvenile Justice Ministry. Obviously, administrated teams in [inaudible]. We have teen parents. We have large areas where we are teen parents. And so we set ministry models for them. We have city life, which is in urban areas where kids aren't identified by school, they're identified by neighborhoods, and they set up opportunities for students to come in [inaudible] success. Campus Life is the model that we use mostly in Michigan, but we're smaller, rural, as in Leelanau County. And so Campus Life is outreach to middle school and high school students, and we're starting here by focusing on high school students. And so Campus Life has programs and they have a Campus Life club, and a Campus Life club is an open club. What that means is you have to be a high school student in this area. You're invited, maybe you're invited by Micah, maybe you're invited by one of these guys (*points to two Leland minor-students in the front row*). And you come to the Club and you check it out and it could be something that you want to join so to speak, they you're welcome to do that? And so, the Campus Life programs love to have spaces like this storefront that we're discussing. It is a wonderful, high visibility area that parents are familiar with that students are familiar with. The area provides also some excellent draws for students. When I can get a student to come to the storefront and say, you can walk down the street and get ice cream, or you can go do some shopping 'cause everywhere I've taken a teen they've got money in their back pocket and they're ready to shop. This is a really wonderful opportunity to have that place for

students to gather. Parking is available, although I will say guys, there's been some times where I've been in this town and I had to drop my wife off in front of the ice cream shop, and I had to park pretty far away, but we know that parking is available. So that's not an issue. So we know the kids can come and gather. It's located in a place that is easily accessed. We think about doing the program all year long with all the hundreds of inches of snow you get, there isn't, that won't be an issue. I assume that the city will be plowed first before roads outside of town will be plowed. So it's a great opportunity to have continuity of the program instead if we were out on a side road someplace. It's the storefront is convenient for students. It's convenient for parents. It's close to the school. Students gather in town anyway, and these are the places that Youth for Christ loves to do ministry in communities. And so we look at this storefront as a tremendous opportunity. And so I'd like to have Micah come up and he can tell you a little bit more what this kind of looks like at the grassroots level.

Micah Cramer: I'm ah Micah Cramer here with my wife Kya Cramer. We are fulltime staff of Youth for Christ here in Leelanau County. We officially live in Leland, I think that makes us Fudgies or Kernel Fudge or something of that sort. We haven't been here long enough to be locals, but we are deeply rooted and established in this community and I just got to say, whether you're in favor or against the proposed use of this building, on behalf of my wife and I we are blessed to live here. We are so blessed to live here. So thank you for being a welcoming community to us. Thank you. I want to familiarize everyone here with a little bit of our program, because that's an important thing for the use of the building, obviously. As you see, in the application, we have summer uses that are a little bit different than the school year uses because in the summertime there's more time to hang out in the afternoons. There's students who are in the community working. They have lunch breaks, they have short breaks or on their day off they're Jetskiing and I know quite a few students. They Jetski right up to the Mer and they get a burger, and then they just walk around town. So a plan is to have some programming available in the afternoons in the summer. This provides space in the afternoon clubs for local high schoolers, as well as summer students who would also be members of the club and that would be extremely beneficial and fun and it also includes Sunday night gatherings, where we would be in the building, get ice cream from local stores, almost all of the the food and snacks and beverages we get is from The Mercantile, usually when we order foods, it's either made by somebody in the community or from a local restaurant, and so the support for the community is just being established in this ministry. And the Sunday night programs are open to all high schools, and it's been a ton of fun to be doing that for our home and using a building a little bit this summer. We could see the benefits [inaudible]. As Todd said, it's visible, has giant windows, right in the central location. I believe it's attractive [inaudible] food [inaudible]. I couldn't tell ya how many times when we put the Youth for Christ sticker up that families would stop

me on their way by and say "Youth for Christ I didn't know that was here, that impacted me so much as youth." That happened countless times this summer. And then as we said it provides safety for year round students during our gatherings. The streets will be paved, the parents can see what's going on, transparency, clarity, and safety, and providing, I believe, a much needed safe place during these old winter months for the students. And a much needed refuge for a lot of the summer students as well who are here and trying to find a place to fit in in the summer. So we have our high school program, which is mainly what we do, and then we also have a local prayer team that would love to gather in this building. This is made up of people in the community who are interested, who are investing in what God is doing in this County, and who are invested in the youth. We have some of our students, their grandparents come, their parents come, we have school staff members who come in the summer, we have people who have been on this Administration, who come on a weekly basis, and it's really just enriching the fabric of this community through the prayer group. And so that's been a ton of fun. And something else that we launched for a little bit for a couple weeks and we're hoping to continue to do is a Friday morning coffee program. Coffee provided by local businesses, and if they don't donate it, then we buy it. So it's a win win, and it's been a ton of fun to do that for a few weeks, to get kids coming in before school, good, healthy community, and that's just been a ton of fun so far as well. So we have our high school program, our coffee programming and our prayer programming and that's mainly what we've been focused on in the last year and a half. And so if you have any questions, you can just talk to me about what we're doing. My wife and I would love to chat, and we'd appreciate your time. Thank you.

[inaudible transition]

Robert Parker: My name is Robert Parker. I'm the attorney in Traverse City working on this project. I wanted to just mention um there's been a suggestion, and I think it's not without merit, that the C-1 district which is where this property is located should be confined to retail uses. I say it's not without merit because I think there's some reference to that notion in the preamble to the C-1 section. *However*, there's always a however isn't there? When you look at the Master Plan for Leland which the particulars to the zoning ordinance should be following, the master plan envisions the downtown area as being mixed use—that's how it describes it, as a mixed use area. And when you look at the C-1 district that notion is borne out because within this district there are permitted as of [inaudible] retail uses that have been discussed before and there are also professional services [inaudible] beauty parlors, barber shops [inaudible] massage. There's also professional offices in this district and, um, those are permitted as well. And then [inaudible] are permitted, as are residential, so you get the feeling that it is truly a mixed use zoning district, despite what the preamble to the C-1 [inaudible]. So I

think it's I think it's not fair to say that the C-1 district should be restricted to retail uses. That's not borne out by the ordinance. It's not borne out by the master plan. There are some communities that have done that. If you're familiar with Jackson Hole, Wyoming, or even Grand Rapids, for example, they have zoning requirements that require retail uses on ground level structures within the community—and there's obvious reason for that that as one of the speakers alluded to. So a couple levels can be occupied by non retail uses such as professional offices, things like that. But that's not what was done here ah we are not confining uses within the core district to retail uses. The other thing of course, taking into account, is that clubs as we all know, and that's why we are here tonight, and you have special language for that. And I think it would be odd if the determination was that a club, because it was not retail, but was authorized as a special land use permit was not permitted within this district. It clearly is. And so I think that we need to be careful of the notion that somehow all the uses within the C-1 district need to be retail. That's really not borne out by the ordinance. And so just to clarify one thing, we did get a little bit over our skis on this. We were aware of when this property was purchased a special land use permit would be acquired and somehow along the process we forgot that. Once we became aware of it an application was immediately filed and activities at that site have ceased because we don't have a permit to do that. So we want to clarify that, and that may explain some of the appearance of the building basically probably because it's basically in [inaudible] while we wait for the issuance of a permit. So that is really the extent of my comments. I just wanted to comment about the retail use and the club use within the C-1 district.

Satterwhite: Anything else from the applicant before we go into PC [inaudible]? This is the part of the meeting where the planning commission can ask the applicant questions, for more information, and with that I open it up to the commissioners to ask any question they may have.

Steve Scales: My question is and again we can go into [inaudible] which is the public hearing it was brought up people wanting to understand You know, it was it was brought up people wanting to understand some of the formal history and I know we have it in Exhibit A, we reference it, but would it make sense to have some of that detail to satisfy what the organization is? I suspect it is that um,

Satterwhite: I'm trying to think...so your question might be [inaudible].

Scales: [inaudible] structural questions. But what I heard tonight was tell me more about the organization. I think it would be worthwhile.

Satterwhite: So, can I ask a question related to your question? So the applicant is Apollos Properties LLC. Is that a 5013C entity?

VanSteenhouse: No

Satterwhite: So walk us through the legal structure of who owns the applicant and how that is [inaudible].

VanSteenhouse: That's a great question. Do you want me to stand up? That's a great question. Number one, I appreciate you guys. I believe what gets [inaudible] measured and done and documented processes are vital. I can deal with black and white, but you can't measure grey so I appreciate the guys taking the gray out of it. The answer to your question is: I started Apollos Properties, LLC, and then we have Youth for Christ came in and now will be leasing said building once this special youth [sic] permit is approved. Number two. Our goal in this community is twofold. For me to put together an organization that comes here just during my tenure and then when I'm gone, it vanishes, that would be very disappointing to me. When you raise your children, you raise them so your legacy continues, you just don't worry about yourself and let them fend for themselves. My point is, is that our goal, to your question Ross, is once we achieve an endowment, we have an endowment level of \$8 million. That's the goal of this endowment. Actually, I moved it to 9 because I think if you can raise \$9 million for the Eurasian millfoil weed? I can raise \$9 million for an endowment to help our children have an eternity in heaven with our Father, right? So once we reach 50% of the endowment, call that 4.5 million dollars, we will donate this building. My wife and I. We will donate this building into a 501c3. Whether or not that is Youth for Christ or another youth 501c3. It will be donated number one. Number two [sic]: We just bought a building, was it 508? 508 South Main Street, just closed on the building down the street. Two weeks ago. That will be the permanent building, the permanent house to house youth pastors from here until eternity. Long after I am gone, and once that endowment is 50 percent raised that home will then be donated into the 501c3. So this goes on into perpetuity. Long after we are all gone, these children will still be coming to a relationship with Jesus Christ in Leelanau County. So the answer to your question, Ross, is that that building does belong to my wife and I. We cannot, under the advisement, of our legal counsel, put it into a 501c3 when there's no endowment because if something happens to my wife and I who are funding this right now, that would be a train wreck. You can't move it out. It's a one way street.

Satterwhite: Thank you for that. I kinda just want to keep it to the mechanics here, okay. Apollos Properties LLC members are you and your wife?

VanSteenhouse (directed to attorney): Yes. Is that right?

Parker: Well, no. It's in trust, but, yeah, yeah. And then the Youth for Christ would be a tenant of the building and have exclusive possession of the northern...the lease has been drawn up its obviously pending approval. So Youth for Christ would be the sole occupant.

Satterwhite: Okay, so let's talk about the tenant for a second. The tenant will be...what's the legal name of the tenant?

Parker: Ah, Youth for Christ.

Satterwhite: And then walk us through that. Is that a national entity? Is that the USA entity? A holding company? Just trying to understand legally how it's all connected.

Cramer: I think I can help. Right now, the ministry that is happening in Leelanau County is happening under the 501c3 of Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ.

Satterwhite: That's the 501c3?

Todd: Yes. And so that will be the tenant. And then as I described in my presentation, as we're able to launch a potential chapter here, there could be a Leelanau County Youth for Christ 501c3 chapter that would be [inaudible].

Satterwhite: The lease would be assigned. So who all is going to be the 501c3 that will be the tenant on the lease. Right? The lease has been drafted, there's a lease. Have you shared the lease with the planning commission? Is that a part in your information packet?

Parker: I don't see why we wouldn't [inaudible].

Satterwhite: It's okay. And at some point in time, you're gonna form another nonprofit [inaudible].

Satterwhite to Scales: [inaudible]

Scales: Two different things. You were understanding the [inaudible] organization. Mine was putting the public at ease with regards to Youth for Christ and I'm sure there's probably something like that. I look back to you Robert you probably...

Todd: Ah, Todd.

Scales: Pardon me?

Todd: I'm Todd. *(clarification and apologies ensue)*

Scales: So yeah, that's what we're after Todd, just understanding so people say, okay, what is Youth for Christ, what is this? You know, we talk a little bit about it in Exhibit A, but I'm not sure the level of detail is necessarily there in A. Probably more legalese than who they are.

Todd: OK. I would be happy to expand on that and provide that to the Commission.

Satterwhite: So I have, I have a question. So you talked about [inaudible] chapter, is that what we call them?

Todd: Correct.

Satterwhite: In Michigan. I'm assuming there's an accreditation process. That there is some process that you have to go through. Is it USA that you have to go through or is it international?

Todd: Yes, I can explain that briefly.

Satterwhite: Would you walk us through how it gets accredited? What has to transpire?

Todd: So [inaudible] charters [inaudible] chapters so there is a [inaudible] USA they could look at a number of things. They could look at 1. Is ministry happening. Cause if there's not, there's no need for there to be a Youth for Christ chapter. Then, is there [sic] structures in place for the local community to be able to oversee, govern, and hire a staff person to do this programming. They would be required to form a board of directors and then they also would have to put structures in place to be able to administratively handle all of the moving pieces of a chapter, mailings, databases, office space, bookkeeping, payroll, etc. And once YFCUSA is satisfied that these mechanisms are in place, they would grant the charter for a 11th chapter to be started. And I'm sure I missed like 27 pieces of what the National office is gonna ask us to do but, in a nutshell that gives us a good overview of the process.

Satterwhite: And that, I heard you say, there are 140 in the country?

Todd: 120. A little over 120.

Satterwhite: OK. And then, when in that process—we're here, the charter's here (*referring to Leland*)—when in the process would activities start happening in that building?

Todd: Well, ah, Micah, under our umbrella, he's a Youth for Christ employee, he's got all of the coverages that come with our insurance policies and all that kind of stuff. He's been trained. He's able to start ministry right away.

Satterwhite: So you don't have to be accredited, for lack of a better phrase, the mothership...to be able to...

Todd: Well, great question. So I'm accredited and I'm overseeing him, and that's how we grow and start new ministry. So he's under my umbrella at Bluewater Thumb for Christ so if there's an accident, if there's an incident, our umbrella of Bluewater Thumb would cover the activities here and we would have access to all the resources that we would need on whatever incident or situation might come up. We also would have access to all kinds of great resources to help us be able to continue to train, bring volunteers in, form prayer groups, community support teams and continue to be up to date on the latest trends on ministering to high school students. *Prompted by whispers from his wife, Micah's mom:* And I have, yes, I have 8 staff so we do this down in the east side of the state. We've been doing it for 65 years. And I've had the blessing of being able to be the executive director for 16 of my 24. So the YFC USA looks at me and says, I think despite, you might say it's a little unusual, that it's my son, that works for this, but that I would be a good resource to be able to help oversee and help them get to the point where they can be granted charter by YFC USA.

Skip Telgard: Question. How about mechanism work for membership? How do members become members? Do they just get to know some of the other members who are there? Some of the higher ups or is there a fee? How does that all work? Can you just give us kind of a rundown.

Todd: You're referring to students?

Telgard: Yes.

Todd: Yeah, Yeah. So, we don't charge a fee. They become part of the group. It's relational programming that we do. So it's getting to know kids, letting them know about the programming that we do, and they choose to participate in it. So then we let them

know what the [inaudible] are, what the opportunities are. And so they kind of see that as their group. So you will meet students who say they are Campus Life Kids, for example. I'm part of the campus life group. I've met Micah, I've met Kya, I've been invited to their activities. I'm committed to doing them. And so that is kind of the club structure that we have. A kid doesn't wanna necessarily pay a fee to be part of that. It's a very open membership. We're focusing on high school students. So that's kind of what the, what the structure looks like.

Telgard: How many members do you max out at, for a facility of this size? How big do you get?

Todd: Well, I don't know if you've been in one of these spaces, but I tell you what, you can fit a lot of kids in a small space. They love to be gathered together, but I don't know what the code is or what the fire marshall might say, but I mean, I've been in that facility where they've had 25 kids and there was plenty of space left over. So I don't know if your max number might be. I defer to Micah and Kya what they think they can fit in that door.

Micah: Well, we currently, as Jim said, the plans to move forward and renovate the interior. Obviously, excuse me, when you make blueprints you gotta think about seating and capacity. And a professional architect isn't going to make the blueprints without an understanding um how many people should be allowed to fit in the room. And so right now the blueprints that we have, you know, pending a special use permit and pending the renovation happens, you could easily seat 45 people just in the half of the building where we do the teaching. And there would be multiple bathrooms upstairs, downstairs, everything that you'd need, and I'm sure if you guys are curious about the blueprints I'm happy to probably send you that as well.

Inaudible Speaker: I'm not the expert on that, the blueprints.

Sam Simpson: So in this club, there's no fee to join. If the participation is active involvement is there a mechanism where someone is officially not in the club at that point? If so, what does that look like?

Todd: If you put yourself in the shoes of a youth minister. You would exclude kids from the club for behavior issues, if they were disruptive to the club, um you would, you would excuse kids if they brought, like across the country, we have kids that have brought guns to club. They brought knives to club. No, we can't. We can't have you there. We've got kids who were trying to do a lesson. You need to leave this space, but our heart would be to continue to try to work with those kids in some way, shape or

form. The ministering to high school students is an ebb and a flow. For example, um Fall. Students have a very separate routine, it's very easy for them to commit and come to these things. Once basketball season starts, it's like every kid is running around and practices are all kinds of crazy times and it's hard to get some continuity. Some kids might exit during basketball season and return in spring when their schedules are different. We don't want to tell that kid, well you didn't meet an attendance requirement, you know you're out of the club. But hey we understand your schedule, when the moment frees up that you are available on Sunday nights for open gym or practice or whatever, come on back and be part of that. So our heart is to try not to exclude somebody if possible, but there are some situations, and unfortunately, we may have to ask someone if it's a safety issue. Yeah.

Satterwhite: Is there any kind of paperwork, like to be a member like, consents.

Todd: Yeah, a great question. So, we have a system called the Youth Management System. And what it is, it's it's being rolled out by YFC USA. So what Micah and Kya So Micah and Kya will do is they will enter into this database. All the students that are participating, so they have a roster, and they'll also try to get contact information for their parents—what their parents are willing to provide and put that into the system. So that way they'll be able to know who's coming, keep attendance. They'll also be able to get permissions for various activities and things that they may do. You're familiar with sending your kids on a field trip? They've got to have the release form to be able to go. So this system will help us communicate, um know who's participating, know what the different activities are that they do. And if parents are willing to give us their contact information for us to be able to communicate with parents, um what's going on in the program and what opportunities there might be for their students. Right now that's kind of done on paper. My chapter has now been onboarded onto that system, so now I'll be onboarding Micah and Kya in the satellite outreach into that system.

Simpson: So to join the club, though, currently, you don't require written parental consent. It's if they give you that information.

Todd: Um, if they show up, then we welcome them in. We welcome them in. Yes.

Satterwhite: Of the activities that could happen at this location, what are the ones that will require parental consent? And what are the ones that generally don't need it? Coming having coffee, you know, having ministry, obviously, not requiring parental consent. Where would you, under the charter requirements of mothership and whatever laws, laws you have to abide by as well, do you have to have parental consent?

Todd: Yeah, we have to have parental consent when we take students down the road, so to speak. So this would be more for activities. They're gonna take some students on a winter retreat. So there's going to be consent forms that families will fill out. They'll probably get a packing list. Our consent form will need to be filled out. The camp's consent form will be filled out. So it's in those situations where we're taking students.

Satterwhite: Offsite?

Todd: Generally offsite.

Satterwhite: I'm sorry to ask this kind of again, but I just wanted to make sure I understand it. Right now, you have enough kind of connectivity back to USA to be able to operate without this chapter being accredited by USA through your Bluewater accreditation and training. Is that? Like, if I was just a parent saying tell me exactly how this works, that you're not accredited yet, walk me through that one more time, so I can make sure I understand.

Todd: Well, I mean, he's accredited because he's under my umbrella. He's a Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ employee, technically. And he's in a satellite location, and we're overseeing that, hoping that it can become its own chartered location. So he is accredited by YFC USA, through our umbrella. He's in, he's cohort trained. He's been background checked and vetted and went through that whole process. He's done a six month internship with us at Bluewater Thumb where he learned all the tools. He's a Campus Life Kid so he kinda knows what the program is that he's operating, now on the other side instead of being a student. So he does have accreditation so to speak, that way.

Satterwhite: And, and, for people who are, um, is there, like a database where we can look up you guys and see your accreditation and like how transparent, I've not looked anything up on the website. I mean how transparent is YFC in terms of being able to look on the website, see you, see Bluewater, see your accreditations, see Micah, see his...you know, is that something people can look up or is that just "you have to trust us if we tell you we're accredited, but we're not going to be able to show you anything that shows that we're accredited." I'm trying to [inaudible], I'm just trying to be clear.

Todd: Well, I can, we can show you the documents that YFC USA says we're accredited, but they're not necessarily current on our website. But on our website you can find me. You can find Leelanau County Campus Life. But you need to see our chartering documents that we have with YFC USA which more than happy to provide,

that might actually address a lot of the the questions that you had (*directed at Scales*) about wanting to know more than what was in the uh, exhibit A or attachments.

Satterwhite: And Robert, you've looked at these documents?

Parker: No.

Satterwhite: You have not.

Scales: When you say looked at these? The documents he is referring to, or the applicant documents?

Satterwhite to Scales: No, the ones that Todd just mentioned. **Satterwhite to Parker:** You have not diligenced [sic] the charter and all the stuff I'm talking about.

Parker: No, I don't represent Bluewater or Youth for Christ.

Satterwhite: Right, your client is A...

Robert Parker (referencing Apollos Properties, LLC): property owner

Satterwhite: I think it would be good to share those documents with the Planning Commission. The charter, whatever, right? To be honest with you we're all just trying to understand.

Todd: Absolutely. I think the charter will be an excellent place to start and then after you review the charter if you have any additional questions after that review, I would be your personal contact that will help direct you to more information.

Scales: Yeah Todd, I think what we are asking is on the application exhibit A is more detail on number two. I think it kinda gives kind of something but other questions and I know you guys have it, but the organization is large, its been around a long time. So I know it exists and maybe part of the application process, you know, did it avail itself there? You know, we sure do have a lot of documents on how clean the water was that goes in there. But this would be the ah the other thing.

Satterwhite: You guys mentioned you have kind of longer term plans for, I guess, your purchase of other places. And, uh, you mentioned specifically the youth pastor. So how does that? What's the future of this place look like?

VanSteenhouse: That's a great question. Obviously, I'm 58 years old and the youth doesn't have...I'm kind of aged out to be a youth pastor [inaudible].

Satterwhite: Are you the youth pastor right now though?

VanSteenhouse: No. No. But my point is, that is, seasons change. Micah and Kya they will do what they do in their life as wherever the Lord takes them [inaudible] check another youth pastor [inaudible].

Satterwhite: But, Micah you are the youth pastor, correct?

Micah: Campus Life Director is the official term.

Satterwhite to applicant: Okay. I'm just trying to keep it straight. *(Long pause.)*

Satterwhite to the Planning Commission: I don't think...got any questions?

Scales: The thing that I would add is the [inaudible] lot of consideration [inaudible] Master plan section 7.38. It's this unity institutions, public facilities, and churches, maintain a viable community center by supporting the needs of the existing and new community institutions in the villages. So 7.38 is I think is important, and um I'd like to as we move forward consider that. And I know, if you look at when we talk about our villages we talk about C-1, R-2, whatever. Not that precedence dictates what we do, but you know, within our villages we do seem to have, you know, quite a bit of areas that um are what we call nonconforming, as a matter of fact I think this library is sitting on a non-conforming piece of property. **Scales to Greg Kuntz, Township trustee sitting in the front row:** [inaudible] Greg knows [inaudible]. **Scales to Commissioners:** So you, when you look at 7.38, I think we need to consider that because it is part of the master plan.

Satterwhite: Skip do you have any questions?

Telgard: Not really.

Satterwhite: At this juncture?

Telgard: I'm sure some will develop as we move down the road, some areas are gonna need to be more well defined. But [inaudible] the process.

Satterwhite: I don't have any more questions. We've outlined some things that we'd like to see: the lease, the charter information, and then whatever you can provide on the

legal structure of who the entity is and how that is going to be controlled, who is going to be the beneficiary, if this thing were to pass. [inaudible]. And then, Todd, we may have questions for you when we read your stuff. So, you know, we need to figure out a way to connect with you on that. [inaudible]

Simpson: How, um, in terms of this being in C-1 and public notice, how far do we, normally it's 300 feet or 300 yards?

Cypher: 300 feet is the law.

Simpson: I know in different situations we have extended it farther than that.

Cypher: You have that right.

Simpson: Is that 300 would be your recommendation at this point?

Cypher: Well you gotta have cause to for wanting to extend, it's not just because you want to. But, um, 300 feet from each property line, okay—that's the standard.

Satterwhite: Plus notice in the paper.

Cypher: Yes. There would be a legal notice in the paper. Normally we publish things like that twice. One is the minimum standard, but um we try to go up above and beyond that. I'm not promoting to read the *Enterprise*, but that's where the information is.

Satterwhite: We know your passion for neutrality.

Cypher: You're right.

Satterwhite: If there are no more questions at planning commission level, I will motion that we put this on the agenda for a public hearing for next meeting. That meeting will be on December 5th? 3rd? December 3rd? And um, and ask you guys can get us this information within a few days? As opposed right before that public hearing?

Cramer: Yeah.

Satterwhite: Or do you guys want to see that information before we schedule the public hearing?

Scales: Let's schedule a public hearing on the condition we have that information forthcoming. I like what you said, we'll get it in the next few days and then we can review it.

Satterwhite: Ok with that?

Simpson: Sounds good.

Satterwhite: All right, well I'll make that motion.

Simpson: Second.

Satterwhite: Anybody got any more comment on it? All in favor?

All Planning Commission members: Aye.

Satterwhite: All opposed? Nobody's opposed. Public hearing in December. This information coming in the next few days? Hopefully.

Todd: Can I have til Monday?

Satterwhite: Monday's good.

Todd: I have a lock-in Friday, with 200 plus kids on the other side of the state. I'll be a little busy the next few days.

Satterwhite: That's fine.

Scales: When we get it Monday. You'll send it to...How do you want it sent to us?

Satterwhite: It should go to Tim. Tim will decide.

Additional conversation about how to pass along information to and beyond Tim Cypher, as well as discussion of unrelated agenda items and a recommendation to move some unrelated remaining business to the next meeting in December. During this discussion, applicant Jim Vansteenhouse exited the Munnecke Room and engaged in conversation with meeting attendees in the foyer.

Second Public Comment (73:40 in related Audio File A)

Satterwhite: Other business? No other business. Planning Commission comments? None. Public comment. Limited to three minutes. Come up to the dais. State your name.

Kim Kelderhouse, Bingham Township: *(This comment has been removed from this transcript as it was related to another matter in front of the Planning Commission. This statement did, however, include a correction to an above statement that is included above. Specifically, Kelderhouse noted that the property we were meeting in this night was “legally non conforming, not just non conforming.”)*

Satterwhite: Any other public comment?

Larry Acker, Leland Township: My wife and I signed one of the letters, which I wrote for myself, not a form letter, and had delivered to this organization. There's nothing “vile” about it. I will submit a copy before the next meeting so you can read it. What it is, is a legally drafted form that says, you do not have consent of the parents of my grandchildren. So my son Justin, his wife Lindsey, signed a second letter, and said, you do not have consent to approach my children and begin teaching them about anything, anywhere. And it is a predicate to legal action if you do. It's simple. Why? Those letters are generated by a lot of people in this community, because the advertising on the website is that this group intends to “pursue” children in this community. Pursue! Look up in the dictionary, it needs “to follow someone for the kind of catch, or overtake or to accomplish a goal over time.” You look at the synonyms: “chase, follow, trail.” I think the parents in this community have a right to know who is chasing their children, where they're chasing their children, how they're chasing their children, and say, “no, you do not have permission.” And that is a legally enforceable right.

Inaudible speaker: Thank you.

Satterwhite: Thank you, Larry.

Jane Keen, Leland Township: My name's Jane Keen, and I just wanted to say, I know what the Webster dictionary says about “pursuit.” The *biblical* termination for pursuit is to follow with love and grace. Thank you.

Satterwhite: Thank you, Jane. Anyone else?

Keith Ashley, Leland Township: Keith Ashley. This was a kind of a wake up call, this meeting. I wasn't aware of the depth of this so I'm not fully prepared but a couple things that are a concern in the attachments: Club membership. The property is not open to the public, admission will be confined to adult supervision, supervisors, so I gather those are employees, and members of the local YFC chapter and their guests. That means that you, and I, who do not have a child in this process will not be allowed in that building, will not hear what's being said, will not see what goes on. And I listen tonight, and the word that comes to my mind is "fervor." I spent some time in Dearborn, and that's a changed community, a greatly changed, and if you want to see the meaning of the word "fervor," go to Dearborn. They have a festival and see what "fervor" is all about. And you've seen it on television. There's a lot of places where that's taking place. I'm concerned that to take the most influential time in a person's life and a child, and, you know, I think those who want to have religion should have religion and follow their dreams and their pursuits and whatever, but to have an organization that is specially set up, to teach children about their vision of what God, Christ, and those things are is a little bit concerning to me, and frankly a bit frightening. I think you ought to approach this *very* carefully, get all the facts, get the mission statement, and find out how all of this stuff can be overseen and enforced by somebody who is *not* part of this youth movement. Thank you.

Satterwhite: Any other public comment?

Anna Hogan, Leland Township: Anna Hogan from Leland. And just two quick things. One, and I heard the gentleman... One thing is on the parking. That was mentioned as a positive and a draw for the group to be coming into a storefront location specifically, and living down the street here, being surrounded on three sides by a parking lot, but yay signed up for that to live downtown. It is a real finite resource, as we all know and live. I also heard that in the blueprints right now for the space on the right side of the building, just the space being used, currently, not the expansion and the distillery, is 50 people. That's doubled down to 100 once we open it up, I assume. And that is potentially, let's call it 50 parking spots, for assembly for this teenage group that are taking away spots from our retailers, from our restaurants, from all of us just trying to move about the community. So I know, like, I understand why the space is attractive and I totally respect that. For the same reasons, it's attractive to businesses as part of the local economy around retail and commerce. So that's one thing, and then quickly the other is I think there's a lot of talk, it's a very sensitive topic around religion and ministry, youth ministry. I really think we can put a lot of that aside for this conversation, and it's really about, let's call it teen gathering and teen assembly, outside of the context of any sort of ministry. And yes, it's great to have a place for teens to gather and be together, especially in the winter months. I grew up here. I was one of those teens. We were

actively asked to not gather downtown, so much so that there was like a police officer involved who watched over us to make sure we weren't assembling in this particular location. That aside, many years ago, I don't disagree that that is a very wonderful thing to have available for the kids. That said, back to the location, and this core in-the-character-of-our-community C-1 definition—and I get the mixed use and the long term plans—but when we look at the other towns in this County around Glen Arbor, Suttons Bay, you know, do we see a lot of this type of thing mixed in and that mixed use? And, no, is the answer I would guess, and that's for good reason. Because this is a tourist economy, and when we start diluting that, over time, it changes the character of why people come down here. So I know I'm kind of repeating myself, but I think it's really important to think about this as teen assembly. What that does strain logistically speaking, but then also what that, what the feeling is with that when there are local businesses trying to thrive in this specific area. Thank you.

Satterwhite: Thank you.

Minor Elise Vann, Suttons Bay Township: Um, state my name?

Satterwhite: Yes please.

Minor Vann: My name's Elise Vann, and I'm a student at the Lighthouse. Um, I'm sorry, I'm nervous.

Andrea Bufka: What was your name again, I'm sorry.

Minor Vann: Elise Vann. The Lighthouse has been an outlet for those who strive to grow in their faith. Micah and Kya have guided us in a way that allows us to process our faith in God's timing. They encourage us in everything by teaching us how to create a way for our faith to be in all that we do, and all for the glory of God. They show up for us, they want us to be there for us. I have enjoyed every Sunday that I've attended at the Lighthouse. I've met people that I would have never interacted with at school. By learning more about their character it has created a safe space to connect and interact without the constant comparison of people. The Lighthouse is a place that reaches out and offers a better way of living. I love all the people because they are kind and welcoming. They don't judge or make you feel uncomfortable. We support each other through our sister- and brother- hood. I was desperately praying for a group to encourage me in my walk to the Lord, and by answering my prayers God has given me the Lighthouse, a place that shows me the true meaning of the life of Jesus in the biblical community. Thank you.

Satterwhite: Thank you.

Maude Babbington, Leland Township: I'm Maude Babbington and I live here in Leland half the year. Just a question that I have, and I know that we don't get answers at public comment, but back to the whole issue of where these gatherings can happen. I'm wondering whether some of the local churches who were close to downtown, and therefore close to the hamburgers, and close to the ice cream, and on streets that get plowed, such as the Methodist Church or the Lutheran Church, whether they might have space and offer that space for their gathering, or are you trying to avoid being affiliated with an established church or established religion. But it just seems like there could be other good places for the kids to gather that already exist, and don't have the problem that has been discussed tonight, with being right downtown. Thank you.

Satterwhite: Any other comments?

Justin Acker, Leland Township: Good evening. Justin Acker. You guys heard my dad talk. I wanted to touch base on a couple of items here. I wanted to touch base on going back to the application because there was talk about the buildout. You go to exhibit B, it says, ah, petitioner intends to use the property of the county wide youth for club. "No new construction, renovations, or updates are being done to the existing building or systems. All that is changing is the use of the subject project to become a club." So, just to be clear, we've heard talk about expansion, but in this, essentially in your guys' packet, there is no mention of that at all. I think that that's important. I also want to add some clarity to, which I...I think is about as clear as mud, on the Youth for Christ and how this is being operated here. So Youth for Christ is an international organization. On the national side of it is out of Colorado, Parker, Colorado I think. Mr. Todd Cramer is the Executive Director for Bluewaterthumb Youth for Christ. Articles of Organization in the state of Michigan show it as a 501c3 that was established by Danny Haag in 1975. So, the structure is that their organization has been around awhile. They should be able to facilitate everything that you guys are asking for, and, if they can't, we should also be able to see it and provide it really easily. I have *combed* their website to try to find anything of any sort of organization on that. You cannot. You cannot find a definition of a club. So I'm going to go back to that, and the definition of what, and this is really simple that you guys can hold off, this is a term that has not been used tonight. Youth for Christ is defined as a "parachurch." There's no club in "parachurch." "A parachurch organization is a Christian faith-based group that works alongside local churches and across denominational lines. This typically specializes in areas like evangelism, discipleship, or social welfare, often focusing on specific demographics..." In this case, young people that individual churches may not be able to specialize in alone. The Youth for Christ mission and structure is a mission to reach young people everywhere and

partner with local churches and raise fellow followers of Jesus. They operate independently of any single church or denomination, but exist *to support and supplement the work of the church*. This is something that I'm unaware that is happening.

Satterwhite: Thank you, your three minutes is up.

Chris Butz, Solon Township: Christ Butz. I've been, as many of you know, my wife and I have been a member of this community and County since 2009. And when we showed up here in this County, we don't look like the traditional members of this community. My children are...four out of five are African American and were always welcomed into the area. What I can say is, I think that there's this scariness that people feel is there, that is not, and I can tell you that because if it were not for a group like Youth for Christ, I wouldn't be standing here to this day. Because when I was 15-year-old/16-year-old Chris, and a group of us decided, hey, there's this open, Friday morning coffee that we could go to and listen to music and hear a guy talk and go on cool ski trips and all this stuff we thought, "let's go." Some of us gave our life to Christ and others didn't, and still some of my friends in Indianapolis where I grew up have not done that. But, when I was 24 years old, newly married, depressed, and suicidal, I had that faith to go back to. And that faith saved my life. So I'm just telling you, please don't be afraid of these people. I've known Micah and Kya, I'm in deep community with Micah. I've known him for over a year. And I'm in bible study with Micah, a Bible study that I lead here every Thursday morning in the community. These are not, some people have said this is a closed group. I know that an adult showed up to a Friday morning coffee and was welcomed with open arms and just asked, "Hey, what is your reason for being here?" The purpose being they want to keep kids safe. It's the same reason why, when somebody that's a convicted pedophile comes to my church, we don't say you can't come, but we make sure that their intentions are pure. Someone's there alongside to make sure the kids are safe. Nothing here is scary or should be scary to you guys. Yes, there's an organizational, organizational ah maybe confusion that some people see. But as a lawyer I can tell you that Jim could buy this property and just sit on it. He has that legal right. It's a basic tenet of property law. He could do that, and it can be *nothing*. It doesn't have to have, he doesn't have to lease it to a tenant that's going to provide some sort of tourist driven economy. And believe me, I've been a part of, many of you may know I've been a part of that tourist driven economy for the last probably 15 years here. And I'm still part of that, I just live down in Cedar now because our kids go to school there. But this, if I were, and I can tell you also growing up in a 60-year-old real estate family, there's nothing in my opinion... My dad's been in residential real estate for 60 years. He would come to this town, he would look at that and he would say, "there's nothing that's going to detract from the value of any property there." In fact, if I came to

the town and I saw that, I'd be like, "Hey, that's great." It wouldn't have kept me from leasing the area that I leased down here for Soulfish Outfitters years and years ago. It wouldn't have kept me in Suttons Bay (*3 minute alarm sounds*) from leasing my space there when I was doing Soulfish Outfitters. So please don't be so afraid and know that their intentions are good. Thanks Ross.

Heidi Weckwert, Leland Township: My name is Heidi Weckwert from Leland, Michigan. And um, ah Apollos Properties, LLC has recently purchased ah 407 South Main Street, which is where Trish's Dishes [inaudible] is, and I actually have a question: What your intentions are with regard to that property?

Satterwhite: Well, this is just public comment.

Weckwert: I know, I just wanted to get it out there. That that there are purchases that are being made that.....

Inaudible speaker: OK. I bet Jim can address that for you.

Satterwhite: Thank you very much. Anyone else for Public Comments? Okay. Public Comment is closed. Thank you very much everyone for participating in that, sharing your thoughts. We appreciate that. Next meeting is December 3, at 5 o'clock here in the Munnecke room. 7:09. We are adjourned.

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