



THE PAR-PLAN NEWS

Par- Plan News Editorial Staff:

- Pat Mead**-Benzonia Township
Benzie County
- John Jones**-Ira Township
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Kalamazoo County
- Jon Sherwood**-Beaverton Township
Gladwin County

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Kenrick Corporation
1700 Opdyke Court
Auburn Hills, Michigan 48326
(248) 371-3100
(248) 371-3069 Fax

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**The promise, the spirits, the hope of America
Seasons Greetings from the Par-Plan**

DIRECTORS
Term: July 1, 2002
Through June 30, 2003

ZONE 1
Paul Lehto, Secretary
Calumet Township
(906) 337-2410

ZONE 2
Marvin Besteman, Jr.
Kinross Charter Township
(906) 495-5381

ZONE 3
Pat Mead
Benzonia Township
(231) 882-4411

ZONE 4
Terry Wright
Grayling Township
(989) 348-4361

ZONE 5
Jim Beelen
Allendale Charter Township
(616) 895-6295

ZONE 6
Jon Sherwood
Beaverton Township
(989) 465-9176

ZONE 7
John Jones
Ira Township
(586) 725-0263

ZONE 8
John Buckhout, Vice Chairman
Charter Township of Kalamazoo
(616) 381-8080

ZONE 9
Bob Skrobola, Chairman
Pittsfield Township
(734) 944-3140

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

The next quarterly board of directors meeting of the Michigan Township Participating Plan is Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 3:00 p.m..

Tom Parachini, Legal Counsel for the Plan will be hosting the meeting at the office of Miller, Canfield, Pad-dock and Stone.

Miller, Canfield is located in the Madden Building, 150 West Jefferson, Suite 2500, Detroit, Michigan.

Members in the area are invited to attend.



**MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTICIPATING PLAN
MIDWEST CLAIMS SERVICE
TO CONDUCT ZONING WORKSHOP
“How to Avoid Zoning Lawsuits”**

The Michigan Township Participating Plan Risk Control Department, along with Midwest Claims Service and Par-Plan appointed counsel specializing in zoning issues, will be presenting an educational seminar on zoning during the MTA Convention. Seminar sessions will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2003 at 8:30 am and 10:15 am..

Zoning issues continue to remain one of the main areas of litigation for many municipalities. The information presented in this seminar will assist you in containing, controlling and reducing losses through management of operations and assist the municipality in providing a stronger defense posture in the event of litigation regarding zoning decisions.

We encourage Public Officials, Planning Commission Members, and ZBA Board Members to attend.

PAR-PLAN TO PROVIDE SPONSORSHIP FOR CITIZEN PLANNER PROGRAM Effective January 1st, 2003

The Michigan Township Participating Plan is offering to its municipal members \$185.00 scholarship for participants in the Citizen Planner Program (CCP), offered by Michigan State University Extension.

The Plan that MTPP is offering to its municipal members consists of \$185.00 scholarship that will be paid to the participating entity upon one of its Planning Commissioners, Zoning Board of Appeals Members, or Board Members successfully completing the six core sessions required to earn a MSUE Citizen Planner certificate. Sponsorship will be for a period of one year.

The Citizen Planner Program is a land use training and certification program for volunteer land use decision makers. Local Planning Commissions and Zoning Board of Appeals are often called upon to make important decisions to guide the growth and development of their communities. Issues surrounding land use planning and regulation, the tools and techniques available within Michigan to address them have become increasingly complex.

The Michigan State University extension Citizen Planner Program was developed to address the basic, ongoing training needs of citizens appointed to serve on local land use planning bodies. The statewide program is being made available and delivered at the local level in conjunction with county MSU Extension Offices. The Citizen Planner Program's objective is to equip volunteer community leaders with the technical knowledge and leadership skills needed to perform their duties more effectively and responsibly.

Courses are often held for 8-12 consecutive weeks at a local facility. Participants are encouraged to sign up for the entire course. Each session is designed to be approximately 2 hours in length, and includes hand-on learning and field trips. The core sessions provide a basic skill set and are required for certification.

Core sessions are offered through a partnership with Michigan Society of Planning (MSP). Curriculum for the two sessions was developed by MSP and is taught by MSP-certified instructors. Core sessions required to earn a MSUE Citizen Planner certificate include:

1. Basic Training for Planning and Zoning: Introduction to Planning, the Comprehensive Plan, and Site Plan Review.
2. Basic Training for Planning and Zoning: Introduction to Zoning, the Zoning Process, and Zoning Board of Appeals.
3. Legal Foundations of Planning and Zoning
4. Plan Implementation—Tools and Techniques
5. Innovative Planning and Zoning Techniques
6. Art of Community Planning: Participating, Effective Meetings and Managing Conflict

Visit www.msue.msu.edu/cplanner for course enrollment information.

Remember, to receive your Par-Plan tuition reimbursement you must complete all 6 core sessions and present a copy of your certification. Upon completion you may contact Peggy Cash (800) 783-1370 of the Par-Plan accounting office for further instructions.

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTICIPATING PLAN PLATINUM SPONSOR

The Michigan Township Participating Plan is a Platinum Sponsor of this years **50th** Annual Michigan Townships Association's Educational Conference, January 28-31, 2003 at the Marriott Renaissance Center in Detroit.

We are proud to continue our support to assist the MTA in providing the finest in educational programming and networking events for township officials throughout the state.

In addition to the activities listed below the Par-Plan is the sponsor of the MTA's 50th Anniversary delegate bags, the projector screen being used during the Opening Session and the Annual Banquet. Additionally, the Plan is sponsoring the entertainment—Three Men and a Tenor at the Anniversary Banquet.

*Tuesday, 1-28, 2003
Par-Plan Hospitality Suite
Opens at 8:00 p.m.*

*Wednesday, 1-29, 2003
Opening Reception in the Renaissance Ballroom (Level 4)
Las Vegas Style—Tribute to Elvis
5:30 - 7: 00 p.m.
Join us at the Par-Plan Hospitality Suite
After the Show*

*Thursday, 1-30, 2003
50th Anniversary Banquet
Par-Plan is the proud sponsor of
Three Man and a Tenor
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.*

Be sure to check your delegate bag for your ticket to see THE BIG E!!!!!!