

Selected Reading List for the MSUE Citizen Planner Program – #4

What should be in every Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals Library

The primary purpose of this reading list is to provide citizen planners with references to the kind of background material they need to do the best possible job as a planning commissioner.

This reading list is neither exhaustive of materials available on the subjects listed, nor does it represent an endorsement of the accuracy or efficacy of any material presented. Many materials are listed from a wide variety of perspectives in order to ensure a representative sampling of materials from different points of view.

A secondary purpose of this reading list is to provide planning directors and consultants with references to materials that could bolster the local planning library. Last, this reading list is also provided as a source for reporters, citizens, students, developers, realtors and others interested in helping shape the future of Michigan's communities.

If a publication is available online, the web address is listed at the end of the citation. All listings have been classified as basic, intermediate or advanced based on content. The classifications are defined and abbreviated as follows:

- Basic. Material that is easy to read, relatively short, and does not require much prior knowledge, but does not go into much depth on a subject.
- Intermediate. Material that is easy to read or written for a more sophisticated reader; material may be of any length and may or may not require some prior knowledge and goes into some depth on a subject.
- Advanced. Material of various reading levels that is generally longer and goes into greater depth, and requires some prior knowledge on a subject.

Session 4. Roles and Responsibilities, Part II: Zoning, Site Plans and Zoning Board of Appeals Process

- Bair, Frederick H. *Zoning Board Manual*, APA Planners Press, 1984, 132 pages, paperback. [Basic]
- Blaesser, Brian. *Discretionary Land Use Controls: Avoiding Invitations to Abuse of Discretion*, Thomson/West, 2002, 457 pages, hardcover.* [Advanced]
- Corwin, Charles D. and Kurt H. Schindler; *Land Use Series*: "How to take Minutes For Administrative Decisions"; May 4, 2006; <http://lu.msue.msu.edu/pamphlet/Zone/AcrobatPamphletMinutes.PDF> (found at web page <http://lu.msue.msu.edu/pamphlets.htm#Zone>)
- FORM BASED CODE INSTITUTE. <http://www.formbasedcodes.org/>. Web. n.d.
- Graham, Mark. "An Overview of the Site Plan Review Process," *MSPO Advisor*, July 1986, p. 1. [Basic]
- Haar, Charles and Kayden, Jerold, editors. *Zoning and the American Dream*, APA Planners Press, 1989, 386 pages, hardcover. [Intermediate]
- Karkkainen, Bradley C. "Zoning: A Reply to the Critics," *Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law*, Volume 101, 1994, p. 1-36, www.law.fsu.edu/journals/landuse/vol101/karkkain.html. [Intermediate]
- Lerabie, Charles. "Preparing a Conventional Zoning Ordinance," (PAS 460) *APA Planners Advisory Service*, 1995, 61 pages, paperback. [Intermediate]
- Michigan Township Association. *The Township Guide to Planning and Zoning*, 1998, 230 pages, paperback.* [Intermediate]
- Owens, David. *Introduction to Zoning*, Institute of Government, 2001, 184 pages, paperback. [Basic]

- Schindler, Kurt H.; *Land Use Series*: “Organization and Codification of a Zoning Ordinance”; August 14, 2000; <http://lu.msue.msu.edu/pamphlet/Zone/AcrobatPamphletZoningCodification.PDF> (found at web page <http://lu.msue.msu.edu/pamphlets.htm#Zone>)
- Schindler, Kurt H.; *Land Use Series*: “Restrictions on Zoning Authority”; May 16, 2002 (found at web page <http://lu.msue.msu.edu/pamphlets.htm#court>) OR can be found at www.michiganlegislature.org [this item periodically changes, thus wise to periodically check for an updated copy]
- Smith, Herbert. *The Citizen’s Guide to Zoning*, APA Planners Press, 1983, 242 pages, paperback. [Basic]
- Taylor, Gary. “Removing Spot Zoning from the Fabric of Zoning Practice,” *Planning and Zoning News*, January 2004, p. 7-10. [Basic]
- Wunder, Charles. “Regulating Home-Based Businesses in the Twenty-First Century,” (PAS 499) *APA Planners Advisory Service*, 2001, 37 pages, paperback. [Intermediate]
- Wyckoff, Mark. *Site Plan Review: A Guidebook for Planning and Zoning Commissioners*, Michigan Association of Planning, 1988, 76 pages, paperback.* [Basic]
- Wyckoff, Mark. “Nonconforming Uses: the What, the Why’s, and the Do’s, the Don’t’s” *MSPO Advisor*, June 1985, p. 1. [Basic]
- Wyckoff, Mark. *Michigan Zoning Guidebook: for Citizens and Local Officials*, MSU Extension, May 2006, 70 pages, paperback. . (Order form: http://www.pzcenter.msu.edu/documents/GuidebooksOrderForm_003.pdf (found at web page <http://www.pzcenter.msu.edu/training.php>))

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