

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
Meridian Municipal Building – Town Hall Room
October 5, 2016**

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chair McConnell, Vice-Chair Schools, Commissioners Dickmann, Sarver, Holland, Jackson, and Kielbaso

ABSENT: Commissioner Masten

STAFF: Harmony Gmazel, Associate Planner

OTHERS:

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Approved by consent without objection.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2016 WORK SESSION

Approved by consent without objection.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair McConnell announced he would be reporting on Environmental Commission activities at the Meridian Leadership Group meeting scheduled for Friday, October 7, 2016 at Coral Gables restaurant.

6. STAFF REPORT

Associate Planner Gmazel explained her memorandum describing the process for the internal review of wetland use permits. She noted that wetland use permits are decided by either the Director of Community Planning and Development or the Planning Commission or Township Board if there is a concurrent land use permit.

Environmental Commission discussion:

- Appreciation for memorandum
- Desire for mechanism to share outcome on wetland use permit decision with Environmental Commission
- Desire for feedback on helpfulness of Environmental Commission permit review comments

7. COMMISSIONER SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Land Preservation: Site visit planned for Lake Lansing Park North for update on controlled burn

Environmental Commission
October 5, 2016 Minutes - DRAFT
Page 2

Energy Team: Attended presentations held on solar panel installations. Site visit planned to resident's home to view solar energy system installed there, invitation to Environmental Commission forthcoming.

Student Engagement: None

Parks: None

a. Special Signage Project Update by Commissioner Holland

Commissioner Holland provided a brief explanation of an Eagle Scout project to install endangered species signs at Red Cedar Preserve.

8. WETLAND USE PERMIT #16-04 (NEMOKA DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS)

Ingham County Drain Commission staff Paul Pratt provided a description of the drain project. The project includes the opening of a portion of the Nemoka Drain.

- **MOTION TO SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT RECOMMENDATION ON WUP #16-04. MOTION APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION.**

9. SAFE DRINKING WATER INITIATIVE

Chairperson McConnell noted Commissioner Masten was not in attendance and suggested this item be instead discussed at the November Environmental Commission meeting.

10. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Kielbaso to adjourn. **SUPPORTED** by Vice Chair Schools. Motion approved 7-0. The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.