



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION – WORK SESSION  
May 1, 2019 7:00 pm

---

*Please note meeting location change: Central Fire Station, 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos.*

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM
2. GREEN THEME PRESENTATION: Tom Frazier, Michigan Townships Association  
“Green Communities”
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
4. PUBLIC REMARKS
5. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Apartment Recycling Update and Discussion
  - B. Other
6. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Wetland Bank discussion with Land Preservation Board
  - B. Environmental Stewardship Awards
  - C. Other
7. CHAIR’S REPORT
8. STAFF REPORT
9. COMMISSION/LIASON/WORKGROUP REPORTS
  - A. Planning
  - B. Land Preservation
  - C. Energy
  - D. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
  - E. Green Team
  - F. Transportation
10. PUBLIC REMARKS
11. ADJOURNMENT

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Supervisor.  
Appointment of Supervisor Pro Tem and/ or Temporary Clerk if necessary.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:  
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.  
Meeting Location: 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Central Fire Station



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WORK SESSION  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864  
Administrative Conference Room  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 2019 7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Bill McConnell; Commissioner, Aparna Krishnamurthi; Commissioner, Jim Kielbaso; Commissioner, Linda Burghardt; Commissioner Kirk Lapham; Commissioner, Commissioner Susan Masten.  
STAFF: LeRoy Harvey, Environmental Programs Coordinator; Peter Menser, Principal Planner  
CITIZENS: Lynn Page, Susan Andrews, MSU Student Reporters/Spartan Newsroom.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Masten moved to approve the agenda. Lapham seconded. Motion approved.

PUBLIC REMARKS: Lynn Paige, 3912 Raleigh Okemos, voiced a strong interest expanding recycling in apartment units. Given the growing number of apartment units in the Township, she feels that the timing might be good wonders if the Board might consider an ordinance. McConnell suggests that the Meridian Green Team might provide a status report at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: Wetland Ordinance Changes: McConnell provided an historical overview of progress to date. This includes past and more recent changes to the State Wetland Ordinance, suggestions from Meridian's Wetland Consultant (Elise Tripp), discussions on the Commission, input from staff, and recent feedback from Representative Brixie's office. Lapham described conversations with the DEQ regarding potential changes (such as wetland essentiality determination). Menser provided an overview of next steps which include integrating comments from the Wetland Consultant, marking up the word file, preparing a zoning amendment, holding meeting(s), etc. Lapham moved that we proceed with the consultant's recommendations and have staff prepare a proposal for the Planning Commission. Masten seconded. Motion approved.

Wetland Banking: McConnell reviewed the Commission's interest in exploring wetland banking as a way to enhance, restore, and create (mitigate) wetlands to offset Township or Drain commission projects with unavoidable wetland impacts. There is the desire to meet with the Land Preservation Board to discuss. There is interest in learning more about past efforts related to the Rysberg Project.

UPDATES: Harvey shared information about a Carbon Fee and Dividend Workshop Tuesday, 7-8pm, April 9 at the Okemos Library. The Energy Team will also be presenting at the Fate of the Earth Symposium at the Kellogg Center on April 13. More at [www.espp.msu.edu/events/fateoftheearth/2019](http://www.espp.msu.edu/events/fateoftheearth/2019) Menser reports that a Brownfield Training Session is being scheduled for April. Masten mentions that her Engineering students might be interested in helping as part of their capstone project.

Next Meeting will be held at the Fire Station (5000 Okemos Rd.) The next Green Theme will be on the "Michigan Green Communities Program" led by Tom Frazier of the MI Township Association.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:46pm



Michigan Green Communities is a statewide network of local government and university staff that collaborate with one another, through peer learning and information sharing, to promote innovative solutions and move sustainability initiatives forward at the local, regional, and state level. MGC network members collaboratively learn and share with one another through webinars, monthly newsletters, face-to-face events, and the annual [MGC Challenge](#).

Established in 2009, MGC is a program of the Michigan Municipal League Foundation, made possible through generous funding from the [C.S. Mott Foundation](#), and is a partnership of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Michigan Townships Association (MTA) and the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC). MGC is led by a steering committee comprised of local government leaders and representatives from partnering state agencies.

MGC network members include staff and elected or appointed officials from cities, townships, villages, counties, and universities across Michigan. MGC network members enjoy:

- Peer-to-peer learning and networking opportunities
- Shared home-grown best practices
- Participation in the [MGC Challenge](#)
- Access to newsletters, webinars, and case studies

Want to get involved? [Drop us an email!](#)

### Steering Committee

MGC's steering committee includes representatives both from local governments and from partner organizations. The steering committee meets quarterly and is charged with establishing an annual work plan for the network.

### Current Members:

- Niles Annelin, Michigan Department of Transportation
- Sandra Diorka, Delhi Township
- Devan Dodge, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Aaron Ferguson, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Luke Forrest, Michigan Municipal League
- Tom Frazier, Michigan Townships Association
- Terri Novak, Michigan Energy Office
- Matthew Naud, City of Ann Arbor
- David Norwood, City of Dearborn (Co-Chair)
- Jeff Spencer, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Alison Sutter, City of Grand Rapids
- Christian Wuerth, Village of Milford
- Chris Yonker, City of Ithaca

## Green Theme Presentations

Jan 9	<b>Garry Rowe</b>	"An Update on the Ingham County Groundwater Survey and Important Issues for Well Head Protection Management."
Feb 6	<b>Karim Chatti</b>	Pavement Preservation – economic and environmental considerations
Mar 6	<b>Mike Pennington</b> Wetland Mitigation Specialist Water Resources Division, DEQ	Wetland
Apr 3		Lois could possibly present on this date.
May 1	<b>Tom Frazier</b> MI Township Association	Green Communities Ideas for Meridian
Jun 5	<b>Jeremy Orr</b> Greater Lansing Clean Cities	Green Transportation visions
Jul 10	<b>Lois Wolfson</b> Dept of Fisheries and Wildlife Institute of Water Research	Invasive Species, Harmful Algal Blooms, PFAS, Climate Change impact on water resources, Networked Neighbors On-line
Aug 7	Meeting?	Allen Bryant - Green Businesses Martha Stanbury - Composting John Anderson - Conservation
Sep 4	<b>Aparna Krishnamurthy</b> Okemos Action, Green Team	Student Environmental Initiatives
Oct 2	<b>Wanda Bloomquist</b> Williamstown Supervisor	Green Initiatives in Williamstown Twp. (Green Zone District, Red Cedar Clean-Up, Green Burial)
Nov 6	<b>Susan Masten</b> (any time in fall) MSU College of Engineering	Waste Water Treatment and what <u>not</u> to put down the drain
Dec 4		