



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Central Park Pavilion
5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Mark Stephens, Jamie Hiller.
ABSENT: Yu Man Lee, Kendra Grassesschi, & Kathy Fay
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Courtney Wisinski.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Hiller called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A. September 13, 2023

Commissioner Stephens moved to approve the September 13, 2023 Agenda to place on file. Board member Parnell seconded.

Voice vote: unanimous.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A. June 14, 2023

Chair Hiller offers an amendment to the September 13, 2023 minutes, Item 6.A, correcting 'Water Quality' within the Climate Sustainability plan to 'Water Management'.

Commissioner Stephens makes a motion to place the June 14, 2023 minutes on file as amended. Vice Chair Thomas seconded.

Voice vote: Unanimous.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Deer Management Season 2023

- a. Management Season starts October 1, 2023 and goes until January 1, 2024
- b. 44 Township properties and 27 private properties will be managed
- c. 67 volunteer hunters from the Township have been registered with the program for 2023. They have all completed mandatory training, safety inspections, and a proficiency test
- d. 300 Deer Management Assistant Permits (DMAPs) have been approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

September 13, 2023

Page 2 of 3

Trustee Wisinski moved to place Deer Management Season 2023 on file as communicated. Vice chair Thomas seconded.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Red Cedar Glen Preserve Overview & Stewardship Plan
 - a. Briefing of stewardship in Red Cedar Glen Preserve
 - b. Signage development and installation for no bikes on side trails. Bikes are only allowed on the main white trail. Red Cedar Glen is the only Township preserve that allows bikes, but only on a specific trail for safe passage.
 - i. Signage for sensitive areas that have deer trails, but run parallel to established trails
 - ii. Adding verbiage to “No Bikes Allowed” trail signage
 - iii. Add white trail posts for white trail at RCG
 - c. Ember Oaks subdivision/Schroeder contract erosion and drainage area inquiry by Commissioner Stephens.
 - i. Is there any residual maintenance to perform? Staff member Campbell will look into shared files to follow up.
- B. Board meeting locations for fall 2023
 - a. October meeting location at Lake Lansing North Preserve to discuss stewardship goals (1000 Wild Ginger Trail in Okemos).
 - b. November meeting location at Township Service Center (2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court in Haslett).

7. REPORTS

- A. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell
 - a. Update on current preservation projects & issues
 - i. Cornell-Sweetwood Update
 - ii. Preserve rule signage: signs are now delivered and parks utility workers are adding preserve signs throughout the summer
 - iii. Lake Lansing South Preserve Mowing Policy
 - 1. Mowing from neighbors continues on the preserve
 - 2. Stewardship plans will move forward, managing invasive teasel
 - 3. 1442 Haslett Road parcel delineation is still under legal review
 - iv. Fall Stewardship 2023
 - 1. Volunteer numbers are on the rise, working with more school groups, MSU collaborations are back!
 - 2. Fantastic Fungi walk
 - 3. Contractual management and spending of funds
 - v. Deer Management 2023
 - 1. Overview of program for 2023
 - 2. MSU Tick and Deer Research
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Kendra Grassesschi
 - a. Commissioner Grassesschi is absent.
- C. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Mark Stephens
 - a. Commissioner Stephens: E bikes will be discussed at next meeting and the

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

September 13, 2023

Page 3 of 3

information brought to a Land Preservation Advisory Board meeting. This is of interest to both the Parks Commission and Land Preservation Advisory Board as e-bike use increases in parks and preserves.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

A. Trustee Wisinski will be meeting to discuss term limits for LPAB members.

B. The land acquisition process is under review by the Township Board.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 6 pm at Lake Lansing North Preserve, 1000 Wild Ginger Trail, Haslett, MI 48840.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board member Parnell moves to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Wisinski seconded.

Chair Hiller adjourned the meeting at 7:22 pm.