



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING
MAY 9, 2017



WORK SESSION - 6 PM
(salmon)

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Marshall Park Playground – resident meeting**
- 4. Towner Road Park Groundbreaking Ceremony**
- 5. Comments**
- 6. Adjournment**

REGULAR MEETING - 7 PM

- 1. Call Meeting to Order**
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
- 3. Presentations (goldenrod)**
 - a. Eagle Scout Project – Paul Fedorowicz, Gaga Ball Pit in North Meridian Road Park
- 4. Public Comment**
- 5. Commissioner Reports and Comments**
- 6. Approval of Minutes (blue)**
 - a. March 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. April 11, 2017 Work Session Minutes

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Chair and/or Acting Chair 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: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

Meridian Township exists to create a sustainable community through the most effective use of available resources that achieve the highest quality of life.



A PRIME COMMUNITY
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7. **Communications** (tan)
8. **Director's Report**
9. **New Business** (pink)
10. **Other Business** (cherry)
11. **Discussion Items** (lilac)
 - a. Love a Park Day – Kelsey Dillon, Stewardship Coordinator
12. **Final Comments**
13. **Announcements**
 - a. Park Commission Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 13, 2017
 - b. Farmers' Market, Saturdays: May – October, 8 am-2 pm; Central Park
 - c. Native Plants Day and Sale at Harris Nature Center, Saturday, May 6, 9 am – 1 pm
 - d. Meridian Garden Club Annual Plant Sale, Friday, May 19, 9 am – 2 pm; Central Park Pavilion
 - e. Love a Park Day, Saturday, May 20, 9 am – 12 Noon; Township Parks
 - f. Senior Health and Fitness Day, Wednesday, May 31, 11 am – 1 pm; Wonch Park
14. **Public Comment**
15. **Closed Session**
16. **Adjournment**

Park Commission Meeting
May 9, 2017

3. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Eagle Scout Project – Paul Fedorowicz Gaga Ball Pit in North Meridian Road Park

Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
Boy Scout Eagle Candidate Information

Scout Name: Paul Fedorowicz Troop Number 109
Parents' Names: Mark/Michèle Fedorowicz
Scout's Phone Numbers: home) 517-381-5235 cell) 517-203-9863
Scout's Address: 3929 Raleigh Dr.
Troop Master Name/ Phone: Steve Riggs 517-281-2467

Eagle Project Title: Gaga ball pit at North Meridian Park

Date to Begin: Spring 2017 Projected Finish Date: Summer 2017

Eagle Project Description: I am requesting to
build a gaga pit at North Meridian Park.
The project will involve construction of
the area, building a sign for the
rules, and having a ribbon-cutting
event to open it to the community.

Date submitted: 5-4-17

Submit to: Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, East Lansing, MI 48823
Phone: 517-853-4608
Fax: 517-853-4099
faust@meridian.mi.us / www.twp.meridian.mi.us

Park Commission Meeting
May 9, 2017

6. MINUTES

- a. March 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. April 11, 2017 Work Session Minutes

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners Baker, Lick, McDonald, Schaetzl, Stephens
EXCUSED: None
STAFF: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner; Parks and Land Management
Coordinator Jane Greenway; Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant II Robin
Faust

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

2. Presentations

a. Friend of the Park Ceremony

The Park Commission recognized the 2016 Friends of the Park volunteers:

Haslett Beautification Association—Planted and maintained the Marshall Park and Haslett green spaces

Meridian Garden Club—Planted and maintained gardens in the Historical Village, the gardens in front of the Municipal Building and Claire Twohy Memorial Garden in Central Park; donated and planted an Arbor Day tree in the Village near the pond with a plaque;; broke ground for the Plant It Pink Garden

Layne Cameron—Provided stewardship activities in the Red Cedar Natural Area and Meridian Riverfront Park

Martha Hentz/Chris Buck Family—Donated and planted flowers at Hartrick Park around flagpole and sign and trash pick-up

Steve DeBrabander—Cleared and maintained trails in Brattin Woods Park

Eckhart Dersch—Provided reports on Ferguson, Wonch, Central Park, Meridian Riverfront Park, and North Meridian Road Park identifying maintenance needs

Eagle Scout Clayton Carmichael—Constructed boardwalk in North Meridian Road Park

Eagle Scout Robert McQuaid—Constructed concrete slab and privacy fence around the recycling area at the Harris Nature Center

Eagle Scout Gage VanOrder—Constructed handicap accessible overlook in Ted Black Woods

Love A Park Day, April 23—Nancy Moore - Haslett Scout Troop #265, Roger and Nancy Smith, and neighbors; Hillbrook Park - Haslett Kiwanis Club, Bobby Dubyne, neighbors and

Park Commissioner Phil Deschaine; Harris Nature Center – Okemos Kiwanis Club, Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club, Treasurer Julie Brixie, Meridian Democrats; Hartrick Park – Martha Hentz and Chris Buck; Sander Farm – Larry Hennessy; Forest Hills Natural Area – Forest Hills Neighborhood Association

Ellen Passage—Maintained Paul Peterson Memorial at Nancy Moore Park

Larry Hennessey—Cleaned and monitored the bluebird boxes in Sander Farm Preserved Natural Area and Tacoma Hills Natural Area

Forest Hills HOA—Cleaned Forest Hills Natural Area

Bennett Woods Elementary—120 students planted a Monarch Way Station at Hartrick Park and also removed the invasive species, Garlic Mustard

Chippewa Middle School—Hartrick Park: 75 students grew flowers in their greenhouse and planted them in the Monarch Garden; students also mulched, weeded and cleaned up park. Ferguson Park: students planted native, flowering trees

Dave Reicosky & Julie Taliber—Helped with the initial planting and maintained the Monarch Way Station at Hartrick Park throughout the summer

Arlene Friedland—Bench donation in memory of Judge Irvin J Friedland to be installed on pathway between Park Lake Road and Okemos Road

Jennifer & Tom Taylor—\$1,000 donation toward mural in memory of Sandra Machtel and \$2,000 donation toward the Doggie Playground in Central Park

Mid-Michigan Republican Women’s Club—Donated tree and plaque in memory of Virginia White to be planted in the Meridian Historical Village

Lansing Oar and Paddle Club—Continued stewardship of the Red Cedar River.

Maria Ibarra—Planted mums and spread mulch at Ferguson Park and Okemos Library

Shirley Smith—Planted mums and spread mulch at Wonch Park

Steve Thomas & Sower Woods Neighbors—Regularly maintained Sower Woods Land Preserve by removing invasive species and planting native forbs

Frank Hatfield & Sylvan Glen Neighbors—Removed invasive Autumn Olive from Red Cedar Glen Land Preserve; Lisa and Phil Bonney, Kay Trosko, Margaret Frankhauser, Gerald and Barb Zuker, Larry Robbins, Margo Smith, and the Holland Family

Murphy Elementary School & GRAND Learning Network—Davis Foster Seed Ball Project: 90 5th grade students enhanced the grassland at Davis Foster by creating native seed balls

Towar Woods Preserve: Cleared invasive plants, planted trees, conducted activities to reduce deer damage to trees and cleaned up trash: Dave Caszatt, Donald Dickman, Nick Sanchez, Sandy Davis, Bobbie Davis Cathie and Max Lindquist, Dave Wearsch, Jim Kielbaso, Margo Smith, Frank Hatfield, Rick Loftus, Matt, Frank and Charlotte Jones, Haslett Scout Troop 265, Mary and Adriana Flores, David Dietz, Mary Fielding, Mark and Paula Frantz,

Hector, Paul, and Rick

Leslie Kuhn and Jim Hewitt—Treated invasive Phragmites and Japanese Knotweed across the township; Mapping, permitting, owner contact and treatments

Deer Management Program—Aaron Rustad, Alan Franklin, Andrew Taylor, Austin Cole, Ben Cummings, Billy Haskins, Brian Watts, Bruce Bussing, Cam Haskins, Casey Carnahan, Chad Cannon, Chad Houck, Charles Otlewski, Christopher Wilcox, Colan Adams, Dan Smith, Dave Hendersen, Glenn Thomas, Jack Shull, James Hurst Jr., Jay Graham, Jeff Neilson, Jeffrey Speer, Jeremy Kapalla, Jonathon Mayes, Justin Cook, Ken Phinney, Kenneth Plaga, Kent Brainbridge, Kim Emery, Kirk Schalau, Kyle Cook, Larry Harb, Layne Cameron, Lee Colony, Margaret Delong, Marvin Johansen, Matthew Cuthbert, Matthew Delong, Matthew Foreman, Matthew Prinz, Matthew Solit, Matthew Wesener, Max Miller, Michael Ellis, Michael McDonald, Michael Mead, Michael Pemble, Michael Reilly, Mike Kingsley, Mike Marinez, Nicholas Hallenbeck, Nicholas Jugan, Ray Nachreiner, Robbie Pairolero, Robert Alexander, Robert Fortino, Roger Cook, Ryan Brzak, Ryan Holem, Scott, Davis, Scott Goldammer, Scott Veracruz, Steve Potvin, Steven Busch, Stephen Moore, Thomas Forton, Thomas Porter, Thomas Taylor, Timothy Swartz, Tom Cannon, Trevor Arnold, Zachary Archibald

Gene Wasserman—Maintenance, monitoring and reporting of Bluebird boxes in Meridian Riverfront Park and Hartrick Park

Patrick & Michelle Allen—Geocache liaisons for the parks - monitoring caches that have been placed in the parks

Georganne Withey—Fitness Over-50 Program Coordinator at the Meridian Mall

MSU Educating Student Athletic Trainers In Medicine (ESTIM) —Meridian Township Family Winter Sports Weekend Polar Bear 5K Race on January 24, 2016

Kiwanis Club of Okemos—Solicited gift cards from local businesses for the HNC Foundation and \$400 to Youth Recreation Sponsorship Fund

Kelly Colflesh—Assisted with maintenance around the Central Park pond to improve fishing access and provided assistance with annual fishing events

Robert and Nancy Smith—Trails and pathways trash removal

Brian Van Order (Michigan Demolition and Excavation, Inc.) —Contributions of time, expertise, equipment for many park projects

Joe Pennoni (Rapid Tree Removal)—Contributions of time, expertise, equipment for many park projects

Harris Nature Center Foundation—Fundraising efforts for the Harris Nature Center (Jim Buscetta; June Hicks; Barb Kissling; Julie Moore; Patty Robbins; Nora Thompson; Roxanne Truhn; Helen & Howard Tanner)

Friends of Historic Meridian—Outstanding efforts toward growth and sustainability of the Meridian Historical Village and for providing meaningful and educational programs

and community events for youth and families; (Jane Rose, Executive Director)

Meridian Senior Center Advisory Board—Provide direction and program support for the Meridian Senior Center (Peggy Frisch/President; Jack Whitmyer/Vice President; Betsey Bricker; Richard Fox; Gen Healy; Carol Rousch; John Wills)

Edgewood Village—2016 Towar Summer Playground Program (\$1,000)

Fireworks Celebration —Meijer - \$2,000 (Terry Cole, Cindy Nunn, Chris Wilson/Okemos Store); Meridian Plumbing - \$1,000 (Craig Phillipich); The Harkness Law Firm PLLC - \$1,000 (Cullen Harkness); Culvers Butterburgers & Frozen Custard - \$1,00 (Cory Chavala); Eastside Tax and Accounting, LLC - \$250 (Thomas Johnson); Okemos Animal Hospital - \$250 (Nydia Alfonso); Ingham County Medical Care Facility and Rehabilitation Center - \$250 (Karen Webster)

Brian Beauchine—Youth Recreation Sponsorship Program (\$407)

Consumers Energy—Donated \$1,000 for trees as part of their Right Tree Right Place Program

Commission returned to the regular meeting at 8 pm.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Amend the following to read:

- Item #5, Public Hearing, a. Grant Applications: 1 – Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center
- Item #10, New Business, a. Resolution to Support 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

COMMISSIONER LICK MOVED, COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

4. **Public Comment**

None

5. **Public Hearing**

a. 2017 Grant Applications:

1. **Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center (HNC)**

- a) Chair declares public hearing open at 8:04 pm
- b) Staff presents project overview

Director Maisner presented an overview of the grant application process, grant opportunities, applications are due April 1 and awards are granted in December. If funded, the project would not be built until 2019. Due to the number of children attending summer camps, the Nature Center rents a large tent every year to provide additional educational space. HNC is becoming a destination location and the addition of the pavilion would complement the other elements

offered along the Red Cedar River including the overlook and canoe launch and at youth nature exploration area.

Coordinator Greenway described the Accessible Pavilion project as follows:

- The shelter building will be fully accessible
- Size is approximately 30'x44'
- Located in the vicinity of the Harris Nature Center building, in the approximate location of the existing pole barn
- Would create a shelter to assist with expanding the environmental educational programs
- Would provide a vital amenity along the Red Cedar Water Trail
- Has a total project cost of \$100,000
- Has a proposed 50% local match from the Park Millage
- Will be applying to the Natural Resource Trust Fund

c) Staff acknowledge received items of communications:

- Advertisement of the public hearing in the local Towne Courier Newspaper on March 5 and March 12

d) Public comment

None

e) Commissioner comments:

- Appreciate being able to offer an amenity along the Red Cedar Water Trail
- There will be electricity inside pavilion and sensor lights on the pavilion
- This pavilion would be an additional element to existing HNC amenities
- Wayfinding signage along the Red Cedar River would be a future project for the Red Cedar Water Trail
- Project elements include: shelter, accessible path, electricity, suggested maybe adding USB plugs
- The proposed shelter will be designed to fit in with the natural environment
- Future additions could include interpretative displays with animal calls.
- Reviewed the local match amount; any costs over the submitted project cost of \$100,000 would be the responsibility of the Township.

f) Chair declared public hearing closed at 8:29 pm.

2. **Riverside Accessible Waterless Restroom at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center**

a) Chair declared public hearing open at 8:30 pm.

b) Coordinator Greenway described the Accessible Waterless Restroom project as follows:

- The proposed project is supported by park visitors including children and parents attending HNC summer camps
- A restroom building has been highly requested for this area of the park in parks and recreation surveys
- It is a vital amenity for the area

- The total project cost is \$100,000
 - Submitting application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Will have a 50% local match from the Park Millage
 - Will be waterless composting – environmentally friendly
- c) Staff acknowledge received items of communications
- Advertisement of the public hearing in the local Towne Courier Newspaper on March 5 and March 12
- d) Public comment
- None
- e) Commissioners comments:
- Security of building; will be very visible from parking area, the site is open at dawn and closed at dusk by the Township Police Department
 - Will be a great feature to add along with the proposed accessible pavilion
 - There is a need for an outside restroom due to the high number of visitors when the Nature Center building is open and closed, especially for school children during the school year and the summer camps
 - An outside restroom has been in the master plan since the Harris Nature Center was first development
 - Meridian Riverfront park is opened at dawn and closed at dusk by township police
- f) Chair declared public hearing closed at 8:44 pm.

6. Commissioner Reports and Comments

Commissioners thanked staff for preparing wonderful Friends of the Park event.

7. Approval of Minutes

- a. February 14, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. February 14, 2017 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONER SCHAETZL MOVED, COMMISSIONER STEPHENS SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

8. Communications

A. Items to/from the Public

None

B. Commission Information

1. Introduction to Vernal Pools, Saturday, March 25, 2017

C. Staff Inquiries/Response

Director Maisner spoke about the article that appeared in the Lansing State Journal and in the Towne Courier about the park projects for 2017 and how the emphasis of the

article was supposed to focus on how well Meridian Township has been able to leverage their local park millage to obtain nearly 2,000,000 grant funding.

D. Distributed at meeting

1. Towne Courier: March 5 and March 12 advertisement for Public Hearing on 2017 Grant Submissions: pavilion and waterless restroom building in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

COMMISSIONER STEPHENS MOVED, COMMISSIONER LICK SECONDED, TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Voice vote. Motion passed.

9. Director's Report

No report

10. New Business

a. Resolution of Support for 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Baker and supported by Stephens:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 75% of the total project cost funded by the Natural Resources Trust Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for \$100,000 of improvements to Meridian Riverfront Park consisting of an accessible pavilion and sidewalks to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the Central Park Master Plan and in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2016-2021 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, park development and improvements are supported by Township Board Policy and 2017 Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 14, 2017; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for development of a universally accessible pavilion in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center with a total project cost of \$100,000. Fifty (50%) percent local match in the amount of \$50,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$50,000) funded by the MNRTF grant.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Annika Schaetzl, Mark Stephens, Michael McDonald, Richard Baker, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

The resolution passed.

b. Resolution of Support for 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Waterless Restroom at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Schaetzl.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 50% of the total project cost funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for \$100,000 of improvements to Meridian Riverfront Park consisting of an accessible waterless restroom to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the Central Park Master Plan and in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2016-2021 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, park development and improvements are supported by Township Board Policy and 2017 Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 14, 2017; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund for development of a universally accessible waterless restroom in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center with a total project cost of \$100,000. Fifty (50%) percent local match in the amount of \$50,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$50,000) funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Annika Schaetzl, Mark Stephens, Michael McDonald, Richard Baker, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

The resolution passed.

c. Nekoma Drain Easement Approval – Hillbrook Park

Director Maisner stated the Ingham County Drain Office has been in discussions with the Park Commission since late 2015 regarding the necessary drain improvements to the Nemoke Drain through Hillbrook Park. The Drain Office staff has worked together with the Commission to clarify the drain easement location and the impacts it may have on the park's trails.

The drain easement has taken the Commission's concerns into consideration and has been reviewed and approved by the Township's attorney. The Drain Office will replace two trees for every one they need to remove in the park; plant native vegetation in areas that will be disturbed during the construction phase; and construct a footbridge over the drain to maintain the integrity of the existing trail system in the park.

COMMISSIONER LICK MOVED, COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE ATTACHED "DRAIN EASEMENT FOR NEMOKA DRAIN-HILLBROOK PARK" WITH THE NEMOKA DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT AS REQUESTED BY THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

Voice vote. Motion passed.

11. Final Comments

None

12. Announcements

- a. Park Commission Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 11, 2017
- b. Farmers' Market –Saturdays, 10 am-2 pm, JC Penny corridor (March 18, April 1 & 15)
- c. Introduction to Vernal Pools, Saturday, March 25, 2017, 10 – 11 am, Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building

13. Public Comment

None

14. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER BAKER MOVED, COMMISSIONER STEPHENS SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners Baker, Lick (arrived 6:45pm), McDonald, Schaetzl, Stephens

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - 6:05pm

2. **Approval of Agenda** -

Agenda item #3 was removed from the agenda.

COMMISSIONER STEPHENS MOVED, COMMISSIONER SCHAETZL SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Voice vote. Approved unanimously.

3. **Marshall Park Playground**

This item was removed from the agenda and will be added to May 9, 2017 agenda

4. **Farmers' Market Relocation Update**

As part of the Central Park Master Plan implementation, Director Maisner reported on the progress of relocating the Farmers' Market to the Meridian Mall parking lot. Groups and organizations such as the Okemos and Haslett Kiwanis Clubs, Capital Region Community Foundation, Consumers Energy Foundation, Meridian Economic Development Corporation have expressed interest cost sharing as well as CBP Properties. Details to follow soon.

5. **Universal Access Playground Project**

Fundraising efforts are being considered for building a boundless playground in Central Park. A large donor is being sought to fund a majority of the playground.

6. **Capital Improvement Program (CIP) 2018-2023**

Director Maisner shared that the Park millage funds generate approximately \$1,000,000 annually for the next nine years. General operating expense for parks is approximately \$700,000/per year which leaves \$300,000 for improvements and renovations to park facilities. Based on recent grant awards, it was recommended that the following projects received funding for 2018: Restroom and Gateway Footbridge in Meridian Historical Village - \$150,000; Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector \$127,500; sculpture Garden clearing in Central Park- \$25,000; Farmers' Market Relocation Project \$25,000. Total: \$327,500. Project planning for future years will be discussed at the May 9 Work Session.

7. **Sculpture**

Development of the proposed sculpture garden in Central Park has the opportunity to incorporate a combination of professional art down to art pieces from elementary school children. There may be a sculpture created by Rick Luke from Luke Landscaping that could serve as the “anchor” for our project. Further discussions are needed to determine the future home of this two-story sculpture.

8. **Other**

The Meridian Downtown Development Authority donated three ceramic tile “disco fish” to be installed at Wonch Park. Staff is currently having them renovated for a target re-dedication date of May 31 during the Senior Health and Fitness Day event.

9. **Comments**

None

10. **Adjournment**

Hearing no objections, Chair McDonald adjourned 7:40pm

Park Commission Meeting
May 9, 2017

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Items to/from the Public
1. From: Ingham County Drain Commissioner; RE: prescribed burn of rain gardens
 2. From: Meridian Downtown Development Authority; RE: donation of Disco Fish sculptures to Meridian Township Parks
 3. From: Chair McDonald; To: DDA; RE: Thank for your donation of Disco Fish sculptures
- B. Commission Information
1. Towne Courier Articles: March 12: Township to spend millions on park developments; March 19: Kiwanis Club names LuAnn Maisner Citizen of the Year
 2. Harris Nature Center Foundation: January 9, 2017 minutes
 3. Parks & Recreation Department Quarterly Report (January-March 2017)
- C. Staff Inquiries/Response
- None

Patrick E. Lindemann

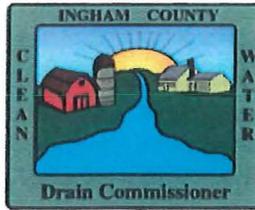
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

PO Box 220
707 Buhl Avenue
Mason, MI 48854-0220

Phone: (517) 676-8395

Fax: (517) 676-8364

<http://dr.ingham.org>



Carla Florence Clos
Deputy Drain Commissioner

Paul C. Pratt
Deputy Drain Commissioner

David C. Love
Chief of Engineering and Inspection

Sheldon Lewis
Administrative Assistant

March 6, 2017

Dear Towar Gardens Resident,

The Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner had a successful prescribed burn in 2016 at the Towar Park and in the rear yard rain gardens. We are planning to continue this maintenance program this spring. The maintenance burn will occur sometime in March or April depending on the weather (please see attached brochure).

Please contact Assistant Project Coordinator Angie Cosman at (517) 719-5431 if you have any questions or would like further information about this maintenance. Also, call Project Coordinator Cosman if you need to avoid the smoke exposure for medical reasons or would otherwise like to be informed of the day the maintenance will occur.

Thank you in advance for your help. It is an honor and a pleasure to serve you and the other citizens of Ingham County.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Patrick E. Lindemann', is written over the typed name and title below.

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

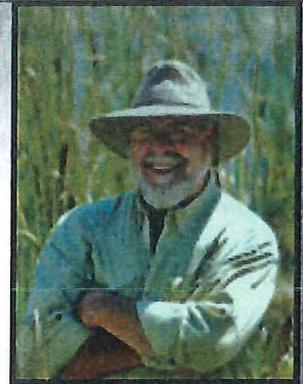
CONTROLLED PRESCRIBED BURNING

N O T I C E

<p>Who? <i>Ingham County Drain Commissioner, managing the Towar Snell and Towar Gardens Drains.</i></p>	<p>Why? <i>Restore native plantings that are designed to clean stormwater.</i></p>	<p>When? <i>March or April 2017</i></p>	<p>Where? <i>see attached map</i></p>
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CONTROLLED PRESCRIBED BURN NOTICE

The Towar Snell and Towar Gardens and Branches Drain Drainage Districts are planning a controlled prescribed burn.



Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Patrick E. Lindemann

Residents and Neighbors of the Towar Snell and Gardens Drains:

As part of maintaining the drain and its natural buffer vegetation, we will be conducting a controlled prescribed burn on some areas around the wetland ponds and rain gardens. This flyer is designed to give you some information needed to understand the process. Should you have questions, please feel free to call (517) 676-8395.



Why Burn? Historically, fire was a common feature of the midwest landscape. By reintroducing fire we are reintroducing a natural process. With the cessation of fire, we have allowed many fire-intolerant, non-native plant species to out-compete the native, fire-adapted plants. Native plants are needed at Towar for their superior ability to help cleanse stormwater of pollutants from our neighborhoods.

Are Burns Safe? The burn is conducted by well-equipped, fully-trained staff with the Meridian Township Fire Department in attendance. A prescribed burn will produce some smoke. In general, emissions from burns are significantly less than those produced from mowing a comparably-sized site. Persons needing to avoid any smoke exposure for medical reasons may leave contact information with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office, and they will be given individual notice of the burn timing. Animal life will be protected by not burning while ground nesting activity occurs.

When? Burns are best done in Spring, before much new growth has occurred. We're planning this burn for March or April. In order to conduct a prescribed burn, we must wait until conditions are right. Weather conditions - temperature, wind direction and strength, humidity, barometric pressure, and ground moisture - all must be within the proper range before we proceed. We will notify local news media on the morning we are conducting the burn. If you would like to be notified the morning we plan to burn, please call.

Towar Gardens Rain Garden



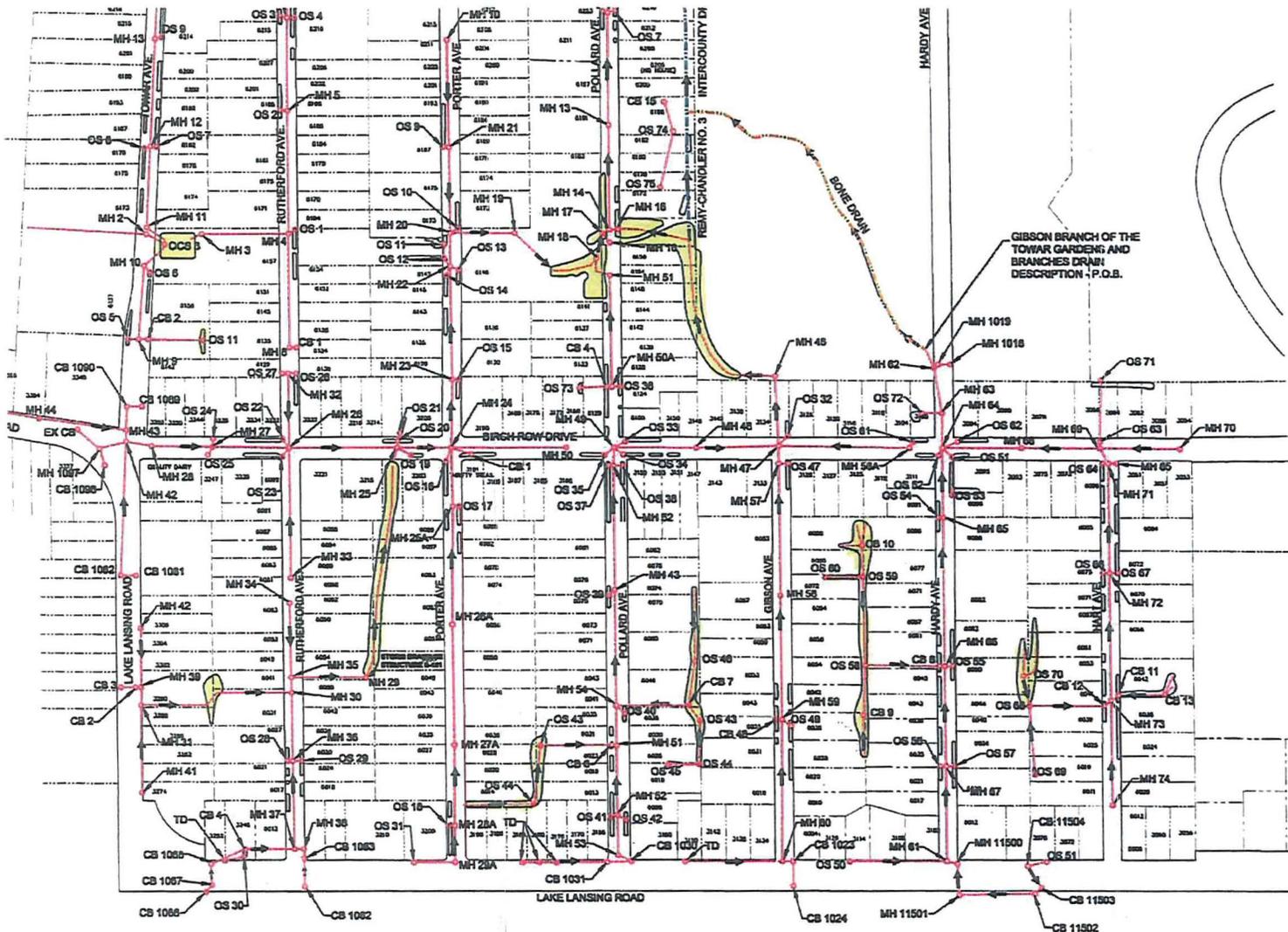
Picture taken 2 weeks after prescribed burn.



Picture taken 6 weeks after prescribed burn.

This year, the prescribed burn will occur around the parks and rear yard rain gardens (see attached map on the back of the letter for areas highlighted in yellow).





PATRICK E. LINDEMANN
INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER
TOWAR GARDENS AND BRANCHES DRAIN
 MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP, INGHAM COUNTY, MI

PROJECT NO.
04070.00

SHEET NO.

1 OF **1**

STRUCTURE NUMBER EXHIBIT

DRAIN ID NO.
T05-53

Meridian Township

Jim Raynak
Sherry Fisher
Jim Spanos
Ron Styka

Chair
Vice-Chair
Treasurer
Supervisor



Bill Cawood Member
Renee Korrey Member
Susan Fulk Member
Scott Weaver Member

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Dear LuAnn,

At the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) regular meeting on March 6, 2017, the DDA voted to donate the three Disco Fish sculptures to the Parks & Recreation Department of Meridian Township. As per your suggestion, the DDA would like to see the sculptures located in either Wonch Park or Ferguson Park. In order to promote the DDA and recognize our partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department in place-making efforts, with your permission, we would like to request that a plaque be installed at each location commemorating the sculptures. Accordingly, we propose the plaques read as follows:

Disco Fish by Tom Rudd
Donated by the Downtown Development Authority
Charter Township of Meridian
March 6, 2017

Thank you, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ben Motil, Meridian Township Economic Development Coordinator at 517-853-4568.

Sincerely,


James Raynak
DDA Chairperson

"The Meridian Township DDA mission is to beautify and revitalize downtown Okemos as a very desirable place to shop, live, and do business. It is a commitment to promoting and improved quality of life by creating a friendly, walkable community embracing the natural aesthetics of the river and parks."



Meridian Township
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

P 517.853.4000
F 517.853.4096

Township Board:

Ronald J. Styka
Supervisor

Brett Dreyfus
Township Clerk, CMMC

Julie Brixie
Treasurer

Phil Deschaine
Trustee

**Patricia Herring
Jackson**
Trustee

Dan Opsommer
Trustee

Kathy Ann Sundland
Trustee

Frank L. Walsh
Township Manager

04/11/2017

Meridian Township Downtown Development
Authority Board
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Dear Chair Raynak and DDA Members:

Subject: Donation of the Disco Fish

On behalf of the Meridian Township Park Commission, I would like to thank the DDA Board for their generous donation of three (3) sculptures of mosaic tile fish to the Park Commission/Township Parks.

The Parks and Recreation Department is planning an event in Wonch Park on Wednesday, May 31 from 11 am-1 pm to celebrate National Senior Health and Fitness Day. A variety of activities are planned including food, music, dancing, chair massage, fitness and stretch activities and more. This seems like the perfect time to host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the park.

The fish are currently being repaired and restored by Ann O'Conner at Art Unlimited prior to installation for the May 31st event.

Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Michael McDonald, Chair
Meridian Township Park Commission



MATTHEW DAE SMITH/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

MSU veterinary medicine student Ben Sorenson, of Haslett, unleashes a tennis ball for his rescue springer spaniels Ellie and Frank at Nancy Moore Park in Meridian Township. The township plans to put a dog park at the nearby Central Park, which Sorenson welcomes.

Township to spend millions on park developments

Meridian planning for soccer fields, trails, restrooms and a dog park

BETH LEBLANC
LANSING STATE JOURNAL

Meridian Township has big plans for several of its parks and preserves in 2017.

Soccer fields, trails, pavilions, and restrooms will be among the priorities as the township spends millions of dollars in improvements in the next two years.

The uptick in projects is due in part to an increased parks tax that voters approved in 2014. That, combined with existing taxes for parks and preservation, have built up reserves for long-delayed projects, according to LuAnn Maisner, director of the Meridian Township Parks and Recreation department.

"We've had parks with master plans sitting there for years so finally we've been able to move forward with implementing those plans," Maisner said.

More than a dozen projects are planned for this year, she said, including:

» Soccer and lacrosse fields, ball diamonds, trails, a pavilion and restrooms at the 23-acre Towner Road park, formerly the Applegate Driving Range. The project will cost about \$1.8 million.

» A \$50,000 dog playground at Central Park this year. In 2018 and 2019 at Central Park, officials plan to spend another \$300,000 on a new gateway bridge and bathrooms, and about \$395,000 on a fishing overlook platform and a paved path connecting Meridian Historical Village to Central Park South.

» About \$600,000 in paved trail and footbridge repairs at parks throughout the township.

» The roughly \$514,900 purchase of an 80-acre parcel adjacent to the Ponderosa subdivision, Legg Park and Red Cedar Glen Preserve. The parcel, north of Jolly Road and west of Van Atta Road, would become part of the township's preservation program.

» A pavilion and walkways at North Meridian Road Park, 5191 North Meridian Road. The project will cost

about \$100,000.

» Shade cover, a walking trail and seating at the Meridian Senior Center. The \$30,000 project will be funded by the Meridian Senior Center millage.

» Interpretive signs explaining the historical significance of structures at the Meridian Historical Village.

» Invasive species management on 15 land preserves and parks and the planting of about 260 native hardwood trees on three land preserves.

Nick Arcaro said he visits parks in the Meridian Township area daily with his dogs. The township resident said he was excited by the developments at area parks.

"As a dog owner, I'm so happy and thankful that they're doing things like this to kind of reach out to the pet-owning community in the East Lansing and Okemos areas," Arcaro said.

"It seems to be a very strong commitment from the people running the township."

Maisner said an increase in the

See PARKS, Page 3A

The Towne Courier

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March 12, 2017



MATTHEW DAE SMITH/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL

A family walks Sunday afternoon near Central Park in Meridian Township where the township plans to build a dog park.

Parks

Continued from Page 1A

township's parks and recreation millage has helped to make recent projects possible.

Voters approved the new 0.66-mill parks tax in 2014 while the existing parks tax of about 0.3 mills had about three years left on its lifespan. Between the two taxes, the township was able to collect about \$1.5 million a year for the last three years, Maisner said.

The 0.3-mill tax expired in 2016. The 0.66-mill tax, which brings in about \$1 million a year, expires in nine years. The township also has a 0.33-mill tax to support land preservation.

The township began to use the increased tax revenue in 2015 and 2016 on long-delayed infrastructure projects, such as repairs to roofs or wells, she said. Now, the township

can tackle capitol improvement projects that have been part of its master plan for years.

"Now that we do have funds available, we're now able to implement that plan," Maisner said.

For some projects, the township has been able to use dedicated parks and preservation taxes as matching funds when applying for state and federal grants.

In 2017, the state awarded the township about \$272,500 for improvements at Central Park, \$514,900 for the purchase of land just north of the Ponderosa subdivision, and \$150,000 for improvements at Meridian Historical Village.

"This (millage) really has opened the door for us for going after larger grants," Maisner said.

The township also will rely on volunteer work and partnerships for some of its projects, such as a monarch garden at Hartrick Park, deer management, and the map-

ping of vernal pools at local parks and preserves.

Julie Brixie, Meridian Township treasurer and board liaison to the Land Preservation Program's advisory board, said the purchase of the 80 acres behind Ponderosa subdivision is ideal because of its diverse habitat and its location near other preserved properties. She said the township hopes to close on the property by the end of the year.

"One of the things that the land preservation board likes to look for is continuity with other properties that are preserved," Brixie said. "We are really excited at the opportunity to add such a significant parcel to the Red Cedar Glen Preserve."

The township's land preservation program has preserved nearly 800 acres since 2000.

Contact Reporter Beth LeBlanc at 517-377-1167 or eleblanc@gannett.com. Follow her on Twitter @LSJBethLeBlanc.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KIWANIS CLUB OF HASLETT

From left are Haslett Kiwanis Club president Phil Deschaine; LuAnn Maisner, parks and recreation director and Derek Perry, assistant township manager.

Kiwanis Club names LuAnn Maisner Citizen of Year

HASLETT - The Kiwanis Club of Haslett has Awarder LuAnn Maisner its Citizen of the Year for 2016. Maisner is the Meridian Township Director or Parks and Recreation, and has served the community for the past 17 years.

"For nearly 2 decades LuAnn has done great things for Meridian Township. And 2016 was a banner year for our parks due to LuAnn's leadership and hard work" said Phil Deschaine, Kiwanis President and Township Trustee.

"In 2016 she and her staff were awarded over a million dollars in grants money to improve Meridian Township parks, the while maintaining our 19 existing parks and 10 land

preserves" said Deschaine. "Even more impressive is the way LuAnn and her staff has motivated the Township's citizens to love our parks and recreation opportunities. Last year 1,550 volunteers donated over 32,000 hours to improve our parks and improve the quality of in Meridian Township."

The Kiwanis Club of Haslett was formed in 1987. Its 25 members member are focused on service projects that help children to learn, experience, dream, grow, succeed and thrive, and have great things happen in their lives. For more information, please go to FlagsOverMeridian.com.

- The Kiwanis Club of Haslett

Harris Nature Center Foundation

Meeting Minutes for January 9, 2017

Present: Jim Buscetta, Barb Kissling, Julie Moore, Patty Robbins, Roxanne Truhn, June Hicks, and HNC Coordinator Kit Rich

Absent: Nora Thompson

Meeting called to order 6:54pm. Reviewed minutes and agenda.

Presidents Remarks: Thanks for the 2017 officers for agreeing to serve.

2017 Goals

Jan: Silent Auction and Panera fundraiser

Feb, March: U Club Big Ban-quet fundraiser

Spring: Completion of the beaver lodge

July: Turtle Toast

Summer: Fossil Dig Improvement: Excavate, install base, refill, and boulders for edge

Fall: Architect Plans for Eagles Nest

Ongoing: Recruit new board members; continue discussion on financial strategies

Financial Report: Barb

Checking balance: \$26,206.80

Savings: \$10,577.92

Total: \$36,784.72

Discussed possible bank change. Jim motioned to move Endowment account from Fifth Third Bank to Flagstar Bank, Patty seconded.

Harris Nature Center Report: Kit

Kiwanis have been very active in soliciting gift cards for the silent auction

Plans underway for the Winter Festival

Turtle Toast ad came out in Celebrate Meridian magazine. Event being sponsored by Meridian Township.

New Business

Silent Auction Jan 28, 10--3 Barb to send out schedule sign up. Set up Friday 9-12

Goal is to raise \$2,000

Panera Fundraising Night, Wed, Feb 1, 4-8 pm flyers printed for distribution at Winter Wonderland. The more flyers the greater the percentage of sales.

Big Ban-quet fundraiser (publicity for donations): Feb. 13 - March 21 Reveal of the winner March 22

Patty and Barb to attend the kickoff breakfast

25 organizations competing for funds. Sponsored by the U Club and MSUFCU. Votes of \$5.00 each are collected the U Club takes 5% and the we get the remaining funds. The organization that collects the largest amount of money will receive \$10,000 credit from the U Club to host a fundraiser at the U Club. The organization with the greatest number of individual votes will receive a \$5,000 credit toward a fundraiser. We need to publicize. U Club will provide a toolkit and we will receive email addresses for donors.

Ongoing Business:

NEA: June to send email to architect David VanderKlok of Studio Intrigue asking for a time line

Investments & Grants Tabled until next meeting

Website - Julie to update next week.

Adjournment 8:08 pm

Important Dates:

Next Meetings: February 13, March 13

Fundraising orientation @ U Club: January 17

Winter Wonderland/Silent Auction: Jan 28

Panera Fundraiser: Feb 1, 4-8pm

Big Ban-quet fundraiser (publicity for donations): Feb. 13 - March 21

2017 Anniversary Turtle Toast (Township's 175th, HNC's 20th): July 22

PARKS & RECREATION – 1st Quarter – January-March 2017

1. Administration:

- Farmers Market: completed four (4) months of the Winter Market with a total of 20-25 vendors each market day; held in J C Penney Corridor inside the Meridian Mall through April.
- First Meridian Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Fair with ten (10) farmers participating and 58 adults and 14 youths attending
- Held successful Chinese New Year event in the Meridian Mall on Saturday, February 11 in center court, Meridian Mall with approximately 1,500 in attendance
- Coordinated music, arts and crafts, historical activities, children’s activities and rides, community mural painting, car show and fireworks as part of planning for the July 1st “Celebrate Meridian” event for the 175th Anniversary.
- Coordinating music, fitness, food, massage and dancing for the Senior Health and Fitness Day Event scheduled at Wonch Park on May 31, 2017 as part of the 175th Anniversary
- Obtained the three-day road closure permit for the Communications Department’s Gus Macker 3 on 3 basketball tournament
- Completed and submitted two grant applications to the DNR for an outdoor restroom and pavilion at the Harris Nature Center.
- Completed and submitted the 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for grant eligibility.
- Received notification of a \$950,000 grant award from the Ingham County Parks and Trails Millage for phase I of the MSU to Lake Lansing Trail.
- Purchased a 16’x7’ “tool trailer” and equipment to accommodate volunteer park clean-up projects funded 100% by a grant from the Capital Region Community Foundation in the amount of \$6,500.
- Continued discussions with Meridian Mall/CBL Representatives from Tennessee to negotiate a public/private partnership on the Farmers’ Market Relocation Project
 - Held the annual Friend of the Park Ceremony honoring 2016 volunteers in Parks and Land Preserves. Over 80 people attended the event.
- Worked with the Ingham County Drain Office on two easements through parks and land preserves.
- Awarded contract for construction of Towner Road Park to Laux Construction for \$1.8.
- Work continued in partnership with the IT Department in finalizing web-based access to our parks, trails and pathways map in the Township.

2. Parks and Land Management

• Parks

✓ Volunteer Efforts

- 10 volunteers from MSU’s Spartan Alternate Breaks program identified trail maintenance needs at North Meridian Road Park and also picked up trash
- Worked on planning and promoting the upcoming volunteer events in the spring: Garlic Mustard Removal, Love A Park Day, and Earth Day

- **Land Preservation**

- ✓ The Land Preservation Advisory Board (LPAB) met on February 8 and March 8
- ✓ The LPAB has reviewed five applications for land acquisition and have scheduled two site visits
- ✓ The LPAB voted to fund the Vernal Pool Monitoring Project which will commence with a public presentation on March 25th
- ✓ The LPAB reviewed and approved the 2017 Land Preserve Stewardship/Management Plan
- ✓ Worked on planning and promoting multiple volunteer events to be held in the spring: Arbor Day Tree Plantings (245 trees ordered), registered MSU Global Day of Service, and Seed Ball Project
- ✓ Prescribed burn bid awarded for Davis Foster Land Preserve (will take place sometime March 15-April 15)
 - Press release and neighbor notification letters sent out

- **Deer Management**

- Coordinated efforts with the DNR and USDA for special rules for hunters in our area due to the CWD.
- The 2016 deer management program was conducted from October 1, 2016 through January 1, 2017.
 1. A total of 70 hunters participated in the program and a total of 70 deer were harvested through the archery program. Each deer head was brought to the MDNR check station and tested for CWD.
 2. The USDA sharpshooters killed 255 deer in 2016 (they killed 399 in 2015).
 3. The DNR tested 134 roadkill from Meridian in 2015 and 197 in 2016.
 4. Car/Deer Collisions: 164 in 2016; 144 in 2015; 137 in 2014; 180 in 2013 and 153 in 2012. (Conclusion: the reported accidents are not going down.)

3. Recreation

- Completed
 - ✓ Moonlight Sledding: January and February events canceled
 - ✓ Polar Bear 5K Run: held January 22; 219 participated
 - ✓ Meridian Ice Fishing Derby: canceled due to weather
 - ✓ Chinese New Year: held on February 11 ; 1,500 attended
 - ✓ Meridian Skates at Suburban Ice: held January 21; 250+ attended
 - ✓ Meridian Swims at MAC: held February 26; 70 attended
 - ✓ Sporties for Shorties: two (2) classes; 40 participants at Meridian Athletic Club
 - ✓ Haslett K-1st grade Basketball Clinics: 130 participants
 - ✓ Haslett 2nd-6th grade Basketball Programs: 155 participants
 - ✓ Okemos K-8th Soccer: registration deadline March 10; preparing teams
 - ✓ Haslett K-8th T-Ball/Baseball/Softball: registration deadline March 10; preparing teams
 - ✓ Okemos 1st-8th Baseball/Softball: registration deadline March 10; preparing teams
 - ✓ Teen trip to Craig's Cruisers: February 13; 45 participants

4. Harris Nature Center

Attendance: January-March, 2017:

- 1,363 drop-in visitors to the Nature Building

- 720 children attended School Programs
- 1,010 children & adults received Outreach Programs
- 170 children participated in Public Nature Programs
- 146 people attended Adult and Family Nature Programs
- 200 people enjoyed the Winter Wonderland event
- 14 people rented/used the nature building for a class/meeting

Naturalist Staff Notes:

- Staff taught 79 programs during the January to March quarter.
- Planned, organized, and implemented Winter Wonderland, a major event which was attended by 200 visitors and 15 volunteers (40 volunteer hours). Another 13 individuals donated baked goods to give away to the visitors.
- Cross country skis and snowshoes were rented 29 times over the winter season for 37 hours of outdoor fun!
- Sent out 27 press releases on upcoming HNC programs.
- Posted 47 times on Facebook and ended the quarter with 1,580 likes.
- Posted 6 times on Twitter and ended the quarter with 617 followers.
- Loaded all 2017 programs onto ActiveNet.
- Loaded winter and spring activities onto the web site and maintained weekly program updates.
- Staff was interviewed nine (9) times by various media, resulting in publicity for HNC in multiple outlets, including:
 - Monthly interviews about upcoming programs on WLNZ radio: Coffee Break Show.
 - HNC staff was interviewed four (4) times for HOMTV shows or promotions.
 - Featured in a Midwest Radio PSA that played on 4 different radio stations in January about the Winter Wonderland.
 - Interviewed once by a MSU student about winter programs.
- Created and sent out a Winter Newsletter.
- Designed a new Nature Connection Summer Camp brochure.
- After the new drainage system was put into the nature building basement, staff painted walls and organized a useable storage area.
- Interviewed six (6) candidates for the part time Assistant Naturalist positions and recommended two (2) to Human Resources.
- Submitted annual reports to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.
- Sr. Park Naturalist Kati Adams attended Project Wild training at the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association Conference in January.
- Staff attended the National Association of Interpretation Region Four Winter Program Training.
- The Harris Nature Center has many exciting programs for children, adults and families planned for spring and summer. All of them are described on the website. Follow this shortcut to the HNC Activities page: <http://bit.ly/HNCprg>
- All nature trails are open from dawn to dusk for walking. Please remember that bikes should be kept off of muddy trails to protect the trail integrity. The spring nature building open hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9am-4pm and Sunday 12pm-4pm. There is a porta-john available when the building is closed.

5. Meridian Senior Center

- Events and Programs – held 644 events with 3,622 attendees
 - ✓ 293 attended a variety of 27 events/activities such as Arts, Clubs, Genealogy, Computer Club, etc.
 - ✓ 654 attended 26 lunch dates
 - ✓ 951 attended 103 exercise classes
 - ✓ 988 attended 200 game event offerings such as bingo, bridge, chess, etc.
 - ✓ 155 attended 22 health screening events including blood pressure, chair massage, foot care, etc.
 - ✓ 6 attended 124 Resource Sharing events
 - ✓ 212 attended 65 media/cultural events, such as Friday Flicks, Documentary Monday, etc.
 - ✓ 223 attended 65 social/special events
 - ✓ 157 attended three (6) legal service events
 - ✓ 18 attended three (3) Advisory Board Meetings
- Volunteers
 - ✓ 24 volunteers assisted the Center for a total of 370.16 volunteer hours

7. The Parks and Grounds Maintenance Division

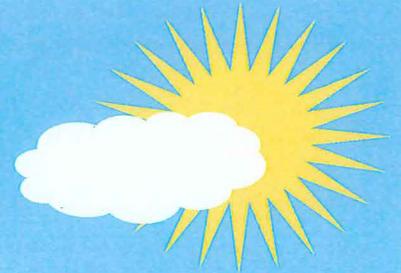
- From January-March, had ten (10) interments to date, 0 disinterment, at Glendale Cemetery
- Christmas Tree Disposal: 1,250 were chipped
- Repaired interurban gate
- Completed spring cleaning of leaves and branches in Riverside Cemetery
- Cleaned and stocked park restrooms
- Performed trail maintenance
- Repaired drainage problem along Kinawa pathway
- Constructed storage shelving at Harris Nature Center
- Continued with twice weekly trash pick up
- Assisted Water Department when requested
- Work Orders Completed:
 - ✓ Parks: 17
 - ✓ Pathways: 17
 - ✓ Land Management: 1

Park Commission Meeting
May 9, 2017

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Love a Park Day – Kelsey Dillon,
Stewardship Coordinator

LOVE A PARK DAY



Saturday, May 20th 9am-12pm

Volunteer in Parks throughout Meridian Township!

Sign up at bit.ly/LoveAParkDay

Spruce up your neighborhood park! We're calling on volunteers to help plant flowers, mulch, pick up trash, clear trails, wash equipment/signs, remove invasive species and much more! If you have questions contact

Kelsey Dillon at dillon@meridian.mi.us or 517-853-4614.

