

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

APPROVED

**March 7, 2018
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
517-853-4560, Town Hall Room, 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Jim Kielbaso, Ned Jackson, John Sarver, Kirk Lapham, Ben Holland
ABSENT: Chair Bill McConnell, Commissioners Susan Masten, Marina Ionescu
STAFF: Principal Planner Peter Menser
OTHERS: None

1. Call meeting to order

Vice-Chair Ned Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Green Themes Presentation – NONE

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Kielbaso moved to approve the agenda as written.
Supported by Commissioner Sarver.
VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. December 6, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Kielbaso moved to approve the minutes as drafted.
Supported by Commissioner Lapham.
VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

5. Public Remarks – NONE

6. New Business – NONE

A. Township Wetland Ordinance Review - Commissioner Lapham explained that he was working on scheduling a meeting to identify changes proposed to the Township's wetland ordinance but has not yet been able to do so due to scheduling conflicts. Vice-Chair Jackson provided an overview of the concerns identified by Chair McConnell, which included the consideration of wetland essentiality and the public interest component of the wetland use permit review criteria.

7. Old Business

A. 2018 Strategic Plan - The Environmental Commission chose to move discussion on this agenda item to the next agenda due to the absence of Chair McConnell.

8. Chair's Report

Vice-Chair Jackson noted his appreciation for Township staff plowing the Interurban Trail during the winter season as he uses it for commuting.

Environmental Commission

March 7, 2018 Minutes

Page 2

9. Staff Report – NONE

10. Commissioner/Liaison/Workgroup Reports

Planning: Principal Planner Menser provided an overview of Planning Commission activities.

Land Preservation: Commissioner Kielbaso shared the publication of an article in the Town Courier announcing the acquisition of new Land Preservation properties. The Land Preservation program now consists of approximately 915 acres.

Energy: Commissioner Sarver reported that the Township has issued a request for proposals to install a 20kw solar system at the Public Safety building. He also noted that solar education workshops are scheduled and that he attended a recent intergovernmental meeting related to development of a climate and sustainability plan for the City of Lansing.

Parks and Recreation: No report.

Transportation: No report.

Student Report: Student Commissioner Holland announced an upcoming Spaghetti Dinner at Okemos High School and the related Earth Club.

11. Public Remarks – Commissioner Lapham announced the City of East Lansing is now offering recycling of Styrofoam.

12. Adjournment

Vice-Chair Jackson adjourned the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m.