



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Location: ZOOM

DATE: October 13, 2020

PRESENT: Amanda Lick, Michael McDonald, Mary Nardo Farris, Commissioners Mark Stephens,

EXCUSED: Ami Van Antwerp

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Maisner requested the following items be added to the agenda: item #3C. Griffyn Porter Eagle Scout candidate Dog Agility Equipment; Item #8Cc. Star Gazing Park Designation and item #9B. MNRTF Ballot Proposal.

Commissioner Stephens moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Seconded by Commissioner Van Antwerp.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. PRESENTATIONS

A. Staff Report – Conservation Corp and Deer Management, Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator

Stewardship Coordinator Campbell outlined the program details and shared the work that has been completed so far. She also reported that a total of 40 deer have been harvested this season as part of the deer management program. Commissioner McDonald suggested that Emma should be a presenter at the next MPARKS Conference sharing her MCC program with other communities.

B. Eagle Scout Final Report – Hillbrook Park Boardwalk, Eagle Scout Candidate Andrew Yeomans-Stephenson

Eagle Scout Candidate Yeomans-Stephenson provided his final report outlining the details of the boardwalk he installed along the trail in Hillbrook Park. The Park Commission applauded his fine workmanship and thanked him for his efforts.

C. Eagle Scout Project – Dog Park Agility Equipment, Eagle Scout Candidate Gryffin Porter
Eagle Scout Candidate Porter proposed constructing Dog Park Agility Equipment for the new large dog park for his Eagle Scout Project and submitted an outline of the items he plans to build.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 11, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Van Antwerp, Stephens

Commissioner Van Antwerp moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Items to/from the Public

1. Ruth Bloomfield commending the Park Commission on the delightful dog park.

B. Commission Information

C. Staff Inquiries/Response

Commissioner Stephens moved TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Seconded by Commissioner McDonald.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Update on Projects

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Eagle Scout Final Report - Hillbrook Park Boardwalk, Eagle Scout Candidate Andrew Yeomans-Stephenson

Commissioner Stephens moved TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT WITH GRATITUDE THE THE BOARDWALK IN HILLBROOK PARK CONSTRUCTED BY EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE YEOMANS-STEPHENSON. Seconded by Commissioner Van Antwerp

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Eagle Scout Project – Dog Agility Equipment, Eagle Scout Candidate Gryffin Porter

Commissioner McDonald moved, TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED PROJECT BY EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE, GRYFFIN PORTER TO CONSTRUCT AGILITY EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW LARGE DOG PARK. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Star Gazing Park Designation

The Park Commission has received requests to allow the opportunity for star-gazing in township parks, especially with covid-19 restrictions.

Chair Lick moved, TO EXTEND THE HOURS AT NORTH MERIDIAN ROAD PARK ONLY UNTIL 11PM TO FACILITATE EVENING STAR-GAZING. Seconded by Commissioner Nardo-Farris.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Commissioner Videos in Parks

Chair Lick is interested in having the Commissioners take videos in their favorite parks. These will then be posted to Facebook and other Township social media sites. Director Maisner offered to tape these sessions with her phone if needed. They also discussed challenging the Township Board to participate in making park videos. Marketplace on the Green – nearly completed. Looking at October 7 for the ribbon- cutting event.

B. MNRTF Ballot Proposal

The Park Commission passed a resolution supporting the upcoming MNRTF Ballot Proposal at their September 8 regular meeting. The proposal will amend the percentage of funds available between acquisition and development projects. Currently 75% of the funds awarded each year must fund land acquisitions and only 25% can be allocated for park development projects. This proposal would provide flexibility to award not less than 25% for acquisition and not less than 25% for development depending on the number of quality applications received each year.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Commissioner Comments

B. Events Calendar:

1. Farmers' Market:

- a. Summer/Fall Market, Saturday, June-October 8 am – 2 pm, Meridian Mall parking area adjacent to the Marketplace on the Green

12. CLOSED SESSION - NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lick adjourned the meeting at 7:20pm.

14. NEXT MEETING

- A. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 5:30 pm; location TBA.