

Charter Township of Meridian Land Preservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

7:00 pm – Meridian Service Center

Members Present: Frank Hatfield (left at 7:30 pm), Vice Chair Mary Helmbrecht, Jon Mayes (left at 7:30 pm), Ken Sink (left 6:30 pm), Mark Stephens, Steve Webster (arrived 7 pm)

Members Absent: Chair James Kielbaso, Margo Smith

Staff: Land Management Coordinator Jane Greenway, Parks and Recreation Department Secretary Robin Faust

Public Present: Mike Thomas

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Approve Agenda

Due to the absence of Mr. Thomas at the beginning of the meeting, Vice Chair Helmbrecht asked to amend the agenda to insert item #6, Presentations. Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Helmbrecht accepted the meeting agenda as amended to insert the presentation item when Mr. Thomas arrives.

3. Public Remarks

None

4. Approve Minutes for April 11, 2012

Board Member Sink noted he was absent from the April meeting.

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVED, BOARD MEMBER HATFIELD SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE APRIL 11, 2012 MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

5. Communications
 - a. April 16, 2012 Bryan Holland, 1400 Sylvan Glen, RE: Red Cedar Glen Preserve
 - b. April 18, 2012 Leslie Kuhn, Wild Ginger Trail, RE: Lake Lansing North Preserve
 - c. January 6, 2012, Application for Public Service, Jon Mayes
 - d. April 28, 2012, Suzan Soderman, RE: Lake Lansing South ("Potter")

Board members discussed new Board Member Mayes expertise as an appraiser and how he will be an asset when valuing potential donations.

BOARD MEMBER HATFIELD MOVED, BOARD MEMBER MAYES SECONDED, TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Voice vote. Motion passed.

6. Land Management Coordinator Report
 - a. Lake Lansing North Prescribed Burn – Coordinator Greenway reported the prescribed burn was successful and the Fire Department invoice amounts were more than anticipated. Additional prescribed burns have been scheduled for Davis/Foster Land Preserve and also for the wildflower areas in Central Park South and the Meridian Historical Village. The costs may be similar to the Lake Lansing North prescribed burn but will have to wait until the burns have been scheduled to determine the cost of the fire department's support.
 - b. MSU Presentation, Tihart/Cornell Wetland Land Preserve – Coordinator Greenway reported she attended the Tihart/Cornell Wetland Management Plan presentation by Jeremiah Hawkins with Park Commissioner Dersch and Board Member Hatfield.
 - c. Garlic Mustard Challenge Press Release – Coordinator Greenway reported 30 bags of garlic mustard were pulled at the Harris Nature Center on April 21 and additional stewardship days will be held once a month in Meridian Riverfront Park.
 - d. Lake Lansing South Preserve ("Potter") – Coordinator Greenway included the communication mailed out to the neighbors about the acquisition of the Lake Lansing South Preserve and reminder of not throwing yard waste into the preserve.
 - e. Phragmites in Land Preserve – Coordinator Greenway included a map indicating areas where phragmites treatments were made on the Hubbell and Davis Foster Preserves.
7. New Business
 - a. Red Cedar Glen – Board Member Hatfield reported on his conversations with Township Manager Richards about the plans to address the erosion issues and who will be performing the work. Engineering and Public Works Director Severy will be sending out a Request for Proposal to determine the

- engineering costs to perform the work. Board Members asked to have a copy of the RFP sent to them. Members discussed the building project Mr. Schroeder is proceeding with on the adjacent site, how the water flow will be addressed, the water flow rate and how this construction would affect the flow rate and possibility of a special assessment for the area.
- b. Welcome back Vice Chair Helmbrecht!

- 8. Presentations
 - a. Education Session – Mike Thomas reviewed the Ecological Criteria Scoring Sheet, how parcels have been evaluated and suggested looking at the history of each parcel before visiting the sites. He suggested one or two site visits be scheduled and then he can review the evaluation process on site. Coordinator Greenway will schedule a future visit with the Board Members and Mr. Thomas.

Due to an absence of a quorum, Vice Chair Helmbrecht did not proceed with the discussion on the remaining agenda items.

- 9. Old Business
 - a. Prescribed burn at David/Foster Land Preserve
 - b. Invasive Species Assessment Reports

- 10. Other

- 11. Public Comment

None

- 12. Closed Session

None

- 13. Adjournment

Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Helmbrecht adjourned the meeting at 7:40 pm.