

Environmental Commission Minutes: December 12, 2018

Attending: Kirk Masten, Ned Jackson, Jim Kielbaso, Aparna Krishnamurthy, Kirk Lapham, Bill McConnell, Sarver, Harvey (staff)

Guests: David Premoe, Dave Batten, and Tom Cary (interested in Env. Commission)

Minutes: Approved as Amended

Calendar for 2019: Jan 9, Feb 6, Mar 6, Apr 3, May 1, Jun 5, **Jul 10**, Aug 7, Sep 4, Oct 2, Nov 6, Dec 4

The Commission discussed a number of minor changes to the Wetland Protection Ordinance (see attached).

The Commission asks that staff develop a draft revised ordinance including new language concerning:

- A permit requirement for signage alerting property owners to the presence of protected wetlands (what is the origin of the graphic at right?).
- Wetland banking in conformance with State law, initially to facilitate public works projects through wetland restoration on land preservation property.



In addition, the Commission asked staff for guidance on:

- The state requirement concerning Essentiality Determination – please cite the statute
- The extent of historic and current mining operations and grazing (including poultry notifications) in the Township

The Commission will review the relevant State definition of “minor projects” that may be exempt from permitting https://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/wrd-minor-project-categories_555829_7.pdf

Planning Update:

- Township Farmers Market: Planning approved a land swap with Meridian Mall.
- Car Dealership developments at Grand River and Powell were approved, including many accommodations to allay concerns of the neighbors.

Land Preservation Update: Harvested 52 deer including a huge buck at Towar woods

Energy Team: No urgent update.

Brownfield Authority: meets next Thursday

Green Team: no report

Staff: Staff distributed a “[Green Infrastructure Audit Tool Report Card](#)” which might be used to encourage, protect, and enhance green infrastructure in existing and future developments.

Adjourned: 9:15 pm