

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016
6 PM – SERVICE CENTER

Members Present: Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, Frank Hatfield James Kielbaso, Yu Man Lee, Jon Mayes, Margo Smith (arrived at 7 pm)

Members Absent: Mark Stephens

Staff: Jane Greenway, Senior Parks and Land Management Coordinator;
Kelsey Dillon, Stewardship Coordinator

Others: Dave Caszatt

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Kielbaso called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm

2. Approve Agenda

Hearing no objections, Chair Kielbaso accepted the agenda as presented.

3. Public Remarks

None

4. Approve Minutes, July 26, 2016 regular meeting

BOARD MEMBER BRIXIED MOVED, BOARD MEMBER HATFIELD
SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE JULY 26, 2016 MINUTES AS PRESENTED.
Voice vote. Motion passed.

5. Communications

- a. To: LPAB, RE: Announcement on full-time status for Kelsey Dillon
- b. To: Rita Stokopf, Joe D Pentecost Foundation, RE: Letter of Support for Grant, Towar Concerns Committee
- c. Hardwood Seedlings Planting Costs
- d. Meridian Township – Community Mobile Tool Shed – 2016 – CRCF

Hearing no objections, Chair Kielbaso accepted and placed items of communication on file.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

a. Invasive Shrub Removal at Towar Woods

Dave Caszatt prepared a proposal to hire an outside contractor to clear invasive shrubs in Towar Woods as follows:

- Clear three (3) acres of woody invasives: buckthorn, honeysuckle, and autumn olive
- Treat stumps of cleared shrubs with basal bark herbicide
- Not to exceed cost of \$10,000

Discussion:

- Need more information on specifically where the requested funds are being spent
- Wait for RFPs to see actual cost of the removal
- What are the alternatives? Can trees be planted under the standing dead buckthorn

It was the consensus of the Board to add this item to the next agenda for further discussion.

8. Land Management Coordinator and Stewardship Coordinator Report

a. Stewardship Coordinator Dillon offered the following report:

- Davis-Foster Land Preserve
 - Security: A split rail fence may be the best solution to secure the parcel but will research alternative fencing options
 - Observation deck: concerns about cost to construct an ADA approved bird observation deck
- South Meridian Uplands
 - Grassland restoration project update: forbs will be planted next fall

9. Public Comment

None

10. Closed Session

BOARD MEMBER MAYES MOVED, BOARD MEMBER SMITH SECONDED,
TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION.

Roll Call:

AYES: Jon Mayes, Frank Hatfield, Margo Smith, Roland Harmes, Julie Brixie,
Yu Man Lee, Jim Kielbaso

NAYS: None

The Board entered into closed session at 7:13 pm.

BOARD MEMBER SMITH MOVED, BOARD MEMBER MAYES SECONDED,
TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Jon Mayes, Frank Hatfield, Margo Smith, Roland Harmes, Yu Man
Lee, Jim Kielbaso

NAYS: None

The Board returned to open session at 7:45 pm.

CHAIR KIELBASO MOVED, BOARD MEMBER MAYES SECONDED, FOR
STAFF TO PROCEED AS DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION. Voice
vote. Motion passed.

11. Other

None

12. Announcements

None

13. Adjournment

Hearing no objections, Chair Kielbaso adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.