



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
Land Preservation Advisory Board
Wednesday, August 12, 2015
6 pm

SITE TOUR NOTES
6 PM – SOWER WOODS LAND PRESERVE

Members Present: Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, Frank Hatfield, James Kielbaso,
Jon Mayes, Margo Smith, Mark Stephens

Members Absent: Robert Rusch

Others: Jim Hewitt, Ted Farrell

Site tour notes

LPAB members and guests walked into the Sower Woods Land Preserve (south portion) from Sower Boulevard. Members pointed out various natural features including swamp milkweed (native) with a monarch caterpillar beneath a leaf; crayfish chimneys (burrowing holes from the crayfish tunneling up); tree frogs; fungi and other native wildflowers.

There are numerous beautiful sugar maples and the understory of the wood in the center of the preserve is generally open and free of invasive species. The edges of the preserve that abut residential areas do have invasive species and evidence of yard waste dumping. The residence on the corner of Graystone and Sower Blvd. continues to encroach into the preserve by mowing the lawn and storing a trailer. The group walked south to the drain, which is near southern property line.

The group remarked that the preserve was one of the finest in the township and that portions of it resembled the upper peninsula of Michigan.

The site visit concluded at 7 pm.