



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett
Meridian Service Center
Wednesday, December 11, 2019 6 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Jon Mayes; Vice-chair, James Kielbaso (6:28 pm); Board Member Kirk Lapham; Board Member Yu Man Lee
ABSENT: Board Member Jamie Hiller; Board Member Mark Stephens
STAFF: Jane Greenway, Senior Parks and Land Management Coordinator; Robin Faust, Administrative Assistant II
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee, Dan Opsommer
OTHER: None

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Mayes called the meeting to order at 6:21 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Change agenda item 7C to memo to support re-appointment of Yu Man Lee and change item 8D to Southwest Meridian Uplands

Board Opsommer moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED**. Seconded by Board Member LEE.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Board Member Opsommer moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2019 REGULAR MEETING**. Seconded by Board Member Lee.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Davis Foster Preserve Barn Update

Coordinator Greenway reported:

- 1) Worked with Friends of Historic Meridian Board President Brad Brogren
- 2) Sent out a RFP to and there were no bids
- 3) Offered to have Parks Maintenance crew do the work they can, patch up the house and secure the area
- 4) Was consensus of members present to move forward as staff suggested

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- B. Tree Bank Ordinance Update
Board Member Opsommer reported:
- 1) Township Board discussed the proposed Ordinance and moved to send to the Planning Staff for development
 - 2) Township Board discussed it at one meeting and hope to see something crafted next year
 - 3) If approved, it will require an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance
- C. Wetland Banking Update
Coordinator Greenway reported:
- 1) Received information from State of Michigan on areas that were historically wetlands and it has been overlaid through our GIS system onto Township maps
 - 2) Township is looking for potential mitigation areas.
 - 3) Board Member Lapham reported the Environmental Commission is discussing the request from the Township Staff to look at Township properties with wetland impact; question if the Township needs or would use a wetland bank (where would it work, how would land qualify). The State has a number of steps for their process but may want to investigate on smaller wetlands at Township level with Township regulations but may need wetland delineation to verify if the land is an actual wetland. If it is a historical wetland, can it be reverted back. Need to see what Township needs are first before going further.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2020 Meeting Resolution

The following resolution was offered by Board Member Dan Opsommer and supported by Board Member Yu Man Lee:

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Advisory Board desires to announce the time, date, and place of all meetings of the Land Preservation Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Advisory Board deems the 2020 regular meeting schedule sufficient to uphold the Township Board's Policies and Procedures, and advancement toward the Board's Global Ends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THAT THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD ADOPTS ITS REGULAR 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

Date	Location	Time
January 8	Service Center	6 pm
January 28*	Town Hall	6 pm
February 12	Service Center	6 pm
March 11	Service Center	6 pm
April 8	Service Center	6 pm
May 13	Service Center	6 pm
June 10	Service Center	6 pm
July 8	Service Center	6 pm
August 12	Service Center	6 pm

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September 9	Service Center	6 pm
October 14	Service Center	6 pm
November 18**	Service Center	6 pm
December 9	Service Center	6 pm

*Joint Meeting of the Township Boards and Commissions

**3rd Wednesday due to Township Offices closed on November 11

1. The Land Preservation Advisory Board has set a schedule to meet on the second Wednesday of the month; except for the joint meeting with the other Township boards and commissions and third Wednesday in November due to the Township Offices being closed on November 11.
2. Each of the above meetings shall be held at the specified time in the lunchroom of the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct., Haslett, Michigan, and (517) 853-4000; with the exception of the joint meeting of the boards and commission which is held in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.
3. Special meetings of the Land Preservation Advisory Board may be called pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
4. Regular meetings may be canceled, recessed or postponed by members of the Land Preservation Advisory Board pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
5. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township, and a copy of this resolution shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: James Kielbaso, Kirk Lapham, Yu Man Lee, Jon Mayes

NAYS: None

Resolution passed unanimously

B. Resolution of Appreciation – Jon Mayes

The following resolution was offered by Advisory Board Member Kielbaso and supported by Advisory Board Member Opsommer

WHEREAS, Jon Mayes has served as a member of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian from 2012 through 2019; and

WHEREAS, Jon Mayes, while serving on the Board, has supported the acquisition and permanent preservation of ecologically important open space and natural features of the Township's community supported and funded land preservation program; and

WHEREAS, Jon Mayes has served as the Chair to the Land Preservation Advisory Board for thee (3) years supporting multiple acquisitions at the Board level; and

WHEREAS, Jon Mayes attended many site visits and offered insight about each parcel being considered for addition to the Township's program; and

WHEREAS, Jon Mayes has devoted much of his personal time and energy on management and stewardship efforts in multiple land preserves; and

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WHEREAS, Jon Mayes service on the Land Preservation Advisory Board has been beneficial to Meridian Township, its citizens, and its natural environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN extends its best wishes to Jon Mayes and expresses its gratitude for his service to the community.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Kirk Lapham, Yu Man Lee, Daniel Opsommer, James Kielbaso,

NAYS: None

Resolution passed unanimously.

- C. Memo to Support Re-Appointment of Yu Man Lee
Board Member Opsommer stated he would carry the information back to the Township Board.

8. STAFF REPORT

- A. Stewardship Days at Towar Woods Land Preserve and Red Cedar Glen Land Preserve
Before departing the Township, Stewardship Coordinator Dillon assisted with the stewardship days at two preserves. Volunteers removed autumn olive at Red Cedar Glen and cleared buckthorn, downed trees, planted 175 trees and basal bark herbicide treatment on buckthorn at Towar Woods
- B. Deer Management Update
Coordinator Greenway reported 30 deer have been harvested to date.
- C. Land Stewardship Position Replacement
Coordinator Greenway reported 40 applications were received interviewed eight candidates and invited three back for second interview. Decision will be made soon.
- D. Southwest Meridian Uplands Land Preserve – 20 acre addition
Coordinator Greenway reported this addition will allow for a trailhead sign will be off Sophiea Parkway and there will be an emergency access, a 20'asphalt pathway with bollard to prevent normal vehicular traffic.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

None

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 6 pm, Meridian Service Center

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12. CLOSED SESSION

Board Member Kielbaso moved, **TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION ITEM.** Supported by Board Member Lee.

ROLL CALL:

YEAS: Kirk Lapham, Yu Man Lee, Daniel Opsommer, James Kielbaso, Jon Mayes

NAYS: None

The Board entered into closed session at 7:10 pm

Board Member Kielbaso moved, **TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.** Supported by Board Member Opsommer.

ROLL CALL:

YEAS: Kirk Lapham, Yu Man Lee, Daniel Opsommer, James Kielbaso, Jon Mayes

NAYS: None

The Board returned to open session at 7:27 pm

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mayes, moved **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.** Seconded by Board Member Opsommer.

Chair Mayes adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.