



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Township Service Center
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI
Wednesday, February 9th, 2022, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Yu Man Lee, Kendra Grassesschi, Mark Stephens.
ABSENT: Board Members: Chanelle Russ.
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee, Dan Opsommer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CHAIR HILLER MOVED TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:05 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. NONE.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBUARY 9, 2022 LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA. Trustee Opsommer seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

TRUSTEE OPSOMMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2022 MINUTES. Seconded by Board Member Parnell.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. None.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Environmental Commission Wetland Outreach & Restoration Draft Plan

1. Commissioner Grassesschi presents the plan for overview

a. On behalf of the environmental commission, part of the 2022 goals for climate sustainability in the Township, is to increase wetland outreach and restoration. Wetlands are the heart of the community, and are an incredible asset to mitigate future damage from future flooding and drought.

b. The objective of this program is to increase knowledge, awareness, and education around wetlands and Township ordinances protecting wetlands. Specifically, the

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

February 9, 2022

Page 2 of 7

'Build Back the Buffer' program aims to improve wetland buffers across the Township, on private property, as well as on Township owned land. Demonstration gardens will be a part of the program, and native plant resources, and guidance will be made available to homeowners.

1. March 23, 2022, Harris Nature Center will host a native plant workshop from Vern Stephens, from local plant nursery, Designs By Nature. Plant sale on May 14th?

c. This will be a year-long educational campaign on social media and boots on the ground events through the Meridian Conservation Corps, but will continue to be a permanent Township program.

1. Officially launched on February 2, 2022 World Wetlands Day. Activities on launch day included: meeting with Township Wetland Consultant, Elise Tripp, at the Green Dialogue to explain the process of wetland delineation and permitting, Wetland Walk Field Series, and the 'Build Back the Buffer' wetland buffer conservation program.

d. The Wetland Education Team, is made up of Kendra Grassesschi (Environmental Commission), LeRoy Harvey (Environmental Coordinator), Courtney Wisinski (Township Board Trustee), Brandie Yates (Communications Director), Emma Campbell (Stewardship Coordinator).

e. Board Members Comments:

1. Engagement and outreach could include demonstration projects, workshops, games for kid, participation from local school, seed collection program, native plant program.

2. Brainstorm ideas to protect any investment made on wetland buffers that receive any match funds. Pursuing conservation easements on buffers adjacent to Township land could be key.

A. 1442 Haslett Road Property Trade, Lake Lansing South Preserve

1. Board Members Comments: Trade would be contingent on strict adherence to the Land Preservation, No Mowing Ordinance. Decision will need to be based off the tree species located on Preserve property.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2022 Meeting Resolution

1. Amend meeting schedule to add a site visit April 13, 2022, and a regular meeting on October 12th, 2022 (documentation included on the next page).

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVED TO AMEND THE MEETING CALENDAR AND ADD DATES, APRIL 13TH AND OCTOBER 12TH 2022 AT 6 PM. BOARD MEMBER PARNELL SECONDED.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE
2022 LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Service Center, in said Township on the 9th day of February 2022 at 6:00 pm, Local Time.

PRESENT: Jamie Hiller; Yu Man Lee; Steve Thomas, Mark Stephens, Dan Opsommer, Chanelle Russ, Kris Parnell, Kendra Grassesschi

ABSENT: Chanelle Russ

The following resolution supported by Chair Jamie Hiller:

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 2022 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 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Date</u>		
January 12	Regular Meeting	6 pm
January 25*	Joint Meeting	6 pm
March 9	Regular Meeting	6 pm
April 13	Site Visit	6 pm
May 11	Regular Meeting	6 pm
June 8	Regular Meeting	6 pm
July 13	Regular Meeting	6 pm
August 10	Regular Meeting	6 pm
September 14	Regular Meeting	6 pm
October 12	Regular Meeting	6 pm
November 9	Regular Meeting	6 pm

*Joint Meeting of the Township Boards and Commissions (ALL JANUARY MEETINGS CANCELLED)

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 on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. No meeting will be held for the month of December, unless one is called by the chairperson.

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

February 9, 2022

Page 4 of 7

2. Each of the above meetings shall be held at the specified time in the lunch room of the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct., Haslett, Michigan, (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; unless changed and noticed in accordance with MCL 15.265
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 posted in the Meridian Municipal Building within ten (10) days after the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year in accordance with the MCL 15.265

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVED TO AMEND THE MEETING CALENDAR AND ADD DATES, APRIL 13TH AND OCTOBER 12TH 2022 AT 6 PM. BOARD MEMBER PARNELL SECONDED.

ADOPTED: Board Member Stephens moved to approve the amended meeting calendar for 2022. Board Member Parnell seconded.

YEAS: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Yu Man Lee, Kendra Grassesschi, Mark Stephens, Kris Parnell, Dan Opsommer.

NAYS: None.

The resolution passed

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss:
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chairperson of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board held on the day of February 9th, 2022.

Jamie Hiller, Chairperson
Land Preservation Advisory Board

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

February 9, 2022

Page 5 of 7

B. 2022 Election of Officers



To: Land Preservation Advisory Board Members
From: Emma Campbell, Land Stewardship Coordinator
Date: February 9, 2022
Re: Election of Officers for 2022

Chair opens the floor for nominations for Chair.

BOARD MEMBER YU MAN LEE MOVED, TO NOMINATE JAMIE HILLER AS CHAIR.
BOARD MEMBER KRIS PARNELL SECONDED.

Board member Jamie Hiller accepted the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair closed the floor to nominations for Chair.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Yu Man Lee, Mark Stephens, Kendra Grassesschi, Dan Opsommer, Jamie Hiller

NAYS: None

Chair opens the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

BOARD MEMBER KRIS PARNELL MOVED, TO NOMINATE STEVE THOMAS AS VICE CHAIR.
BOARD MEMBER MARK STEPHENS SECONDED.

Board member Steve Thomas accepted the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair closed the floor to nominations for Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Yu Man Lee, Mark Stephens, Kendra Grassesschi, Dan Opsommer, Jamie Hiller

NAYS:

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

February 9, 2022

Page 6 of 7

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Drainage Issue at 730 Knightsford Lane
 - 1. Issue will be tabled until the April 13th regular meeting.
 - 2. Board Member Comments: Letter which was sent to Mr. Schultz should be used as protocol for similar situations that arise in the future with Township Land Preserves.

TRUSTEE OPSOMMER MOTIONED TO MOVE INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS AGENDA ITEM 8A. Board member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Closed Session – Land Acquisition

7. REPORTS

- A. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell
 - 1. 2021 Annual Report; 2022 Land Preservation Program Goals
 - 2. Financial Review: Staff comments; budgets will be utilized more specifically this year, such as the fund for contractual work to remove invasive species.
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Kendra Grassesschi
 - 1. Environmental Commission is currently looking through applications for the Green Grants program. Last year Haslett Montessori was awarded funds to create native gardens. They are still accepting applications. Environmental equity issues are high priority.
- C. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Mark Stephens
 - 1. The parks department and commission submitted the 5 year master plan to the DNR. The Environmental Commission's Wetland Education and Restoration program was successfully added. This year marks the 25th anniversary of Harris Nature Center so the Park Commission will be focused on that, as well as fishing dock and Central Park pond enhancements.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- A. NONE.

9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 9th, 2022 at the Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, Michigan.

11. ADJOURNMENT

VICE CHAIR THOMAS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Board member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting is adjourned at 9:21 pm.