

## Environmental Commission Minutes: November 7, 2018

ATTENDING: John Sarver, Bill McConnell, Kirk Lapham, LeRoy Harvey (staff), David Premoe (Planning Commission), Aparna Krishnamurthy (Okemos Action, Interested Commissioner), Jim Kielbaso,  
ABSENT/EXCUSED: Susan Masten, Ned Jackson

MEETING Called to order at 7 PM by Chair McConnell

**GREEN THEME: E.L. Commission on the Environment: Resilience Dialogues, Climate Sustainability Plan, Subcommittee Projects**, Cathy Deshambo, East Lansing Environmental Services Administrator. See the presentation at <http://meridianmi.swagit.com/play/11072018-1180> Resilience Dialogue reports (including E.L. can be found [here](#). Ms. Deshambo also spoke about recycling, green building/development incentives, green infrastructure, climate sustainability, FEMA, resilience, and other topics.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August, September, and October Minutes were approved with minor edits.

### NEW BUSINESS

Aparna Krishnamurthy introduced herself. Her application for participation on the Commission was received. LeRoy will contact the Board to request her appointment. Welcome Aparna!

Upcoming Wetland Use Permits: Newton Park will be coming to the road possibly in December.

### OLD BUSINESS

We have two openings on the Environmental Commission (1 for a student) <http://bit.ly/commission-app>  
Residents are encouraged to apply. LeRoy reached out to Haslett High School.

**Wetland Ordinance Work Session:** Dec. mtg. will be a work session unless have a permit to review.

**PAH Update:** Derek Perry suggests that hold on a ban an begin to specify low-PAH sealants in our own projects, test out the alternative products, and conduct outreach to the public and contractors. The Commission would like to be kept updated on spec revisions.

### 8. REPORTS & UPDATES

CHAIR: McConnell is exploring possibilities for wetland restoration on land preserves. He will elaborate as this evolves.

### COMMISSION/LIASON/WORKGROUP REPORTS

**Planning:** None

**Land Preservation:** Jim Kielbaso reports that the Deer management program is underway. So far, there have been 31 deer harvested. Jim also reported the electric poles are being replaced in the Rysberg property, a wetland area off of Okemos Rd.

**Energy:** Sarver reports that the Solar Array is up and producing power. He also mentions help from the Assessing Department in an inventory of solar systems in the Township. Sarver mentions that the Energy Team is working on an Annual Report related to the Climate Sustainability Plan. McConnell mentions that we might devote a future work session to assist with this in January or February. Sarver and the Energy Team are also surveying businesses.

**Green Team:** Harvey and Krishnamurthy mentioned that the Green Team is planning a spring recycling event and also doing a survey in a multi-family apartment complex to assist with expansion of their recycling opportunities.

STAFF: Elizabeth Hossink, Social Media Intern, is interested in receiving ideas for environmental stories and helping promote Green Themes. Harvey shared an update about the Green Community presentation to the Board last month and distributed a list of “green projects” featured on [www.migreencommunities.com](http://www.migreencommunities.com) McConnell and Tom Frazier (Michigan Townships Association) attended the Board presentation. Harvey also shared info about a Green Infrastructure project with MSU, and info about the latest Green Gazette.

9. PUBLIC REMARKS: No additional public remarks.

10. ADJOURN: Sarver motioned to adjourn and Kielbaso seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

