



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
December 12, 2018 6 pm

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVE AGENDA
3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
4. APPROVE MINUTES
 - A. November 14, 2018
5. COMMUNICATIONS
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Resolution of Appreciation – Julie Brixie
 - B. Resolution of Appreciation – Margo Smith
 - C. 2019 Meeting Schedule
8. STAFF REPORT
 - A. 2018 Land Stewardship Report
9. COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC
10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2018, 6 pm, Meridian Service Center
12. CLOSED SESSION (separate envelope)
13. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Land Preservation Advisory Board by contacting: Director LuAnn Maisner, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable prime community.



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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

MEETING OF THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 12, 2018

4. Minutes



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett
Meridian Service Center Lunchroom
Wednesday, November 14, 2018 6 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Jon Mayes; Board Member Margo Smith; Board Member Mark Stephens;
Board Member Roland Harmes, Board Member YuMan Lee
ABSENT: Vice-Chair, James Kielbaso; Board Member Jamie Hiller
STAFF: Jane Greenway, Parks and Land Management Coordinator; Kelsey Dillon, Park
Naturalist and Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee Dan Opsommer
OTHER: None

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Mayes called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member Stephens moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA**. Seconded by Board Member Smith.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Debbie Gift, Jim Galligan, and Norman Grannemann, citizens of Meridian Township, addressed the Land Preservation Advisory Board concerning the potential rezoning of parcels that border their neighborhood and the Southwest Meridian Uplands Land Preserve. They expressed concern of development on the parcels because development could impact sensitive ecosystems such as wetlands on and near the land preserve. They citizens expressed that they would be in favor of at least part of the land be acquired by the Land Preservation Program.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Board Member Stephens moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF September 12, 2018 REGULAR MEETING AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letter concerning rezoning of parcel next to Southwest Meridian Uplands Preserve

Board Member Stephens moved **TO PLACE COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE**. Seconded by Board Member Mayes.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

November 14, 2018

Page 2 of 3

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ingham County Good Egg Removal Request

Board Member Smith moved **TO ALLOW INGHAM COUTNY TO REMOVE GOOSE EGGS FROM LAND PRESERVATION PROPERTIES NEAR LAKE LANSING.** Seconded by Board Member Mayes.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Sower Woods Funding Request

Board Member Smith moved **TO ALLOCATE \$300 OF LAND PRESERVATION FUNDS FOR GROWING NATIVE SEEDLINGS AT THE WILDTYPE PLANT NURSERY IN MASON, MI TO BE PLANTED BY VOLUNTEERS IN SOWER WOODS LAND PRESERVE.** Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Eric Torng, Larry McCurdy, and Kathy McCurdy, citizens of Meridian Township, addressed the Land Preservation Advisory Board concerning the potential rezoning of parcels that border their neighborhood and the Southwest Meridian Uplands Land Preserve. They expressed concern of development on the parcels because development could impact sensitive ecosystems such as wetlands on and near the land preserve. They citizens expressed that they would be in favor of at least part of the land be acquired by the Land Preservation Program. Larry and Kathy McCurdy also expressed that better maintenance of the current trails in the land preserve would encourage more users of the preserve.

11. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Member Harmes wished to discuss the Deer Management Program in more detail:

- Believes a lottery system such as the one utilized by the Michigan DNR be implemented on properties with known trophy bucks.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 6pm, Meridian Service Center

Board Member Stephens announced the Fish Like A Girl (FLAG) Program sponsored in part by Meridian Township will take place on December 8th from 9am-3pm at Rayla Elementary School.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Board Member Stephens moved **INTO CLOSED SESSION.** Seconded by Trustee Opsommer.

Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

November 14, 2018

Page 3 of 3

Roll Call:

AYES: Chair, Jon Mayes; Board Member Margo Smith; Board Member Mark Stephens; Board Member Roland Harmes, Board Member YuMan Lee, Trustee Opsommer

NAYS: None

The Board moved into closed session at 7:21pm.

Board Member Smith moved **TO ADJOURN THE CLOSED SESSION AND RETURN TO THE OPEN SESSION.** Seconded by Board Member Lee.

Roll Call:

AYES: Chair, Jon Mayes; Board Member Margo Smith; Board Member Mark Stephens; Board Member Roland Harmes, Board Member YuMan Lee, Trustee Opsommer

NAYS: None

The Board reopened the meeting at 7:40pm.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Smith moved **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.** Seconded by Trustee Opsommer. Chair Mayes adjourned the meeting at 7:43pm.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

MEETING OF THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 12, 2018

7. New Business

- A. Resolution of Appreciation – Julie Brixie
- B. Resolution of Appreciation – Margo Smith
- C. 2019 Meeting Schedule

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

At a regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 12th day of December 2018, at 6:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by Advisory Board Member _____ and supported by Advisory Board Member _____.

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie has served as a member of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian from 2013 through 2018; and

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie was an integral part of the first community supported and funded program of its kind in Michigan for the acquisition and permanent preservation of ecologically important open space and natural features; and

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie served as the Meridian Township Board liaison to the Land Preservation Advisory Board for five years supporting multiple acquisitions at the Board level; and

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie attended many site visits and made them more fun by bringing along her dog, Charlie Brown; and

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie has devoted much of her time and energy on management and stewardship efforts in multiple land preserves; and

WHEREAS, Julie Brixie’s 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 Julie Brixie and expresses its gratitude for her service to the community.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting 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 on the 12th day of December, 2018.

Jon Mayes, Chairperson
Land Preservation Advisory Board

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

At a regular meeting of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 12th day of December 2018, at 6:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by Advisory Board Member _____ and supported by Advisory Board Member _____.

WHEREAS, Margo Smith has served as a member of the Land Preservation Advisory Board of the Charter Township of Meridian from 2010 through 2018; and

WHEREAS, Margo Smith was an integral part of the first community supported and funded program of its kind in Michigan for the acquisition and permanent preservation of ecologically important open space and natural features; and

WHEREAS, Margo Smith attended numerous neighborhood meetings, stewardship days and site visits showing her dedication to the Land Preservation program; and

WHEREAS, Margo Smith was an expert on wildflower identification during site visits and always took time and care to fill out the ecological screening criteria for new properties; and

WHEREAS, Margo Smith devoted much of her time and energy toward the Vernal Pool Program monitoring two pools over the course of a year; and

WHEREAS, Margo Smith’s 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 Margo Smith and expresses its gratitude for her service to the community.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting 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 on the 12th day of December, 2018.

Jon Mayes, Chairperson
Land Preservation Advisory Board

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE

**Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting Dates
2019 Meeting Schedule**

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 12th day of December, 2018 at 6:00 pm, Local Time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following resolution was offered by Board Member ____ and supported by Board Member ____:

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 2018 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 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
January 9	Service Center	6 pm
January 15*	Town Hall	6 pm
February 13	Service Center	6 pm
March 13	Service Center	6 pm
April 10	Service Center	6 pm
May 8	Service Center	6 pm
June 12	Service Center	6 pm
July 10	Service Center	6 pm
August 14	Service Center	6 pm
September 11	Service Center	6 pm
October 9	Service Center	6 pm
November 13	Service Center	6 pm
December 11	Service Center	6 pm

*Joint Meeting of the Township Boards and Commissions

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.



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM**

MEETING OF THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 12, 2018

8A. Stewardship Coordinator Report



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM

2018 MANAGEMENT PLAN OVERVIEW

December Update

Land Preservation Signs

Sign locations marked and scheduled to be installed at new land preserves:

- Ponderosa Preserve
- Tihart Preserve
- Mandenberg Woods
- Serafine Parcel

Property Boundary Marker Posts & Installation

Five preserves had property boundary post installations:

- Serafine
- Tihart Preserve
- Mandenberg Woods
- Ponderosa Preserve
- Nemoke Preserve

Interpretive & Directional Signage

Preserves with trails will receive trailhead signs. The signs integrate the rules signs.

Red Cedar Glen will be the first to receive a sign – sign design complete.

Site Restoration

Site restoration refers to anything that increases ecosystem health within the preserve. Our preserve projects for 2018 are as follows:

- Davis Foster
 - Removal of invasive species, autumn olive from front field
- Towar Woods
 - Tree planting- 300 trees planted and tubed in the spring
 - Invasive species management - glyphosate around newly planted trees to kill weeds
 - Over 5 acres of mature Buckthorn treated with basal bark herbicide
 - \$1,000 received as a generous donation to the tree planting project for 2019
- SW Meridian Uplands
 - Continue grassland/prairie monitoring
- Serafine
 - Four workdays complete removing shrubby invasive species such as Buckthorn, Autumn Olive and Honeysuckle

- Jim Hewitt has also been working on his own multiple days a week to treat the shrubby invasives along the roadside
- Red Cedar Glen
 - Continue the removal of invasive autumn olive with neighbors
- Contract prairie planting at Tihart Preserve property
 - Bids out, first one came in at \$12k
 - On hold, looking into possible grants to help with the cost
- Contract Japanese/Bohemian Knotweed Removal at Ponderosa Preserve
 - Complete. Contractor will perform management over a 4 year period