

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015

PRESENT: Commissioners: Jaramillo, McDonald, Wilson
Staff: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner; Parks and Land
Management Coordinator Jane Greenway; Parks and Recreation
Administrative Assistant II Robin Faust

ABSENT: Commissioners Deschaine, Stephens

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Due to the presence of the representatives from the Ingham County Drain
Commissioner's Office, agenda item #4 was moved forward to become agenda
item #3.

Under item #5, include item A, Adopt-A-Park discussion

Hearing no objections, Chair Wilson accepted the work session agenda as
amended.

3. Hillbrook Park Proposed Drain Improvements

Project Consultant Team: Deputy Drain Commissioner Paul Pratt, Gregory
Lamkin PE, Alan Boyer PE from LSG Engineers and Surveyors, and Blair
Webster distributed information (copy in minute book) and offered the following:

The Ingham County Drain Commissioners Office is in the processing of
developing a plan to provide flood relief in the Nemoka Drain Drainage District.
The overall goal is to improve stormwater detention within the Nemoka Village
Plat and a relief line through the Benson Hills Apartment complex and Hillbrook
Park.

There are two options:

1. To install another pipe within the existing easement in Hillbrook Park
2. Develop a "daylighting" of the drain to mimic a natural stream channel within a
wider easement.

The Drain Commissioner would like to proceed with the daylighting option consisting of a natural channel that could serve as a pleasant water feature and dissipate high velocities of water that are causing erosion on both banks of the Pine Lake Outlet Drain into which the Nemoka Drain empties. The project would require an 80-foot wide easement through Hillbrook Park from the east property line to the confluence with the Pine Lake Outlet Drain. The project will have flatter slopes from the top to the bottom of the main channel and still allow for construction of a meandering “low-flow” channel within the limits of the main channel. This will decrease the velocity of the water flow and total energy in the system prior to meeting the flows from the Pine Lake Outlet Drain.

Discussion:

- If the daylighting drain is constructed, how will the existing pathway be addressed
- Will the Drain Commissioner’s Office need an access trail through the Park to maintain the drain
- How often would the new drain need maintenance
- Will need assurances that the existing trail will be accommodated for in the plan to allow park users continued access to this area of the park

4. Central Park Master Plan Consultant Proposals

Director Maisner reported the proposals were received from Viridis Design Group for a project amount of \$14,000 and from O’Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates (OCBA) for a project amount of \$14,450.

The Commissioners were impressed with each of the presentations and proposals and are comfortable with Viridis but believes O’Boyle would do a great job as well. The Commission seemed to slightly favor the public engagement proposal from O’Boyle, Cowell, Blalock and Associates.

5. Other

a. Adopt-A-Park

Director Maisner stated that Commissioner Deschaine spoke with her about wanting to be an advocate for park cleanup projects and getting the community more involved. He would like to reach out to community, scout and school groups to be more involved and assign them to a park. They spoke about the Friend of the Park program and updating the current guidelines. The Commissioners agreed that is was a good idea but that no formal Commission action was necessary.

6. Public Comment

None

7. Closed Session

COMMISSIONER MCDONALD MOVED, COMMISSIONER JARAMILLO SECONDED, TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROPERTY CONSIDERATION.

Roll Call

AYES: Melanie Jaramillo, Mike McDonald, Todd Wilson

NAYS: None

The Commission moved into closed session at 6:51 pm.

COMMISSIONER MCDONALD MOVED, COMMISSIONER JARAMILLO SECONDED, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

Roll Call

AYES: Melanie Jaramillo, Mike McDonald, Todd Wilson,

NAYS: None

The Commission returned to open session at 7:00 pm.

8. Adjournment

Hearing no objections, Chair Wilson adjourned the work session at 7:01 pm.