



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:30pm
Meridian Service Center
2100 Gaylord Smith Ct, Haslett 48840

REGULAR MEETING – 4:30PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
6. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. Redeemer Church Thank you
 - B. DNR Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan Approval Notice
 - C. Deer Management Appreciation Letter
7. ACTION ITEMS
8. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Roundtable Discussion on Various Topics
9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
10. PUBLIC COMMENTS
11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
12. ADJOURNMENT

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, LuAnn Maisner:
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord Smith Ct. Haslett, MI 48840



4. Agenda

March 8, 2022



AGENDA

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
 PARK COMMISSION MEETING
 Tuesday, March 8, 2022 4:30pm
 Meridian Service Center
 2100 Gaylord Smith Ct, Haslett 48840

REGULAR MEETING – 4:30PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 11, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
6. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. Redeemer Church Thank you
 - B. DNR Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan Approval Notice
 - C. Deer Management Appreciation Letter
7. ACTION ITEMS
8. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - a. Roundtable Discussion on Various Topics
9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
10. PUBLIC COMMENTS
11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
12. ADJOURNMENT

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, LuAnn Maisner:
 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord Smith Ct. Haslett, MI 48840



5. Minutes
January 11, 2022



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
Meridian Service Center
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840
TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2022 4:30 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Mary Nardo-Farris; Vice Chair, Ami Van Antwerp; Commissioner, Mark Stephens; Commissioner, Mike McDonald
ABSENT: Commissioner, Amanda Lick
STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jane Greenway, Senior Parks & Land Management Coordinator; Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Nardo-Farris called the meeting to order at **4:47 pm**.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Clerk Guthrie thanked staff for all of the work on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and for their work in the township parks. She views the parks as community 'gems.' She is on the Universal Access Advisory Board and is willing to help the department in any way.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Van Antwerp moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Commissioner McDonald.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Nardo-Farris asked to have Item 1 corrected to read "Chair Nardo-Farris called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm."

Commissioner McDonald moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF December 14, 2021, AS AMENDED**.

Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Thank you letter

Commissioner Van Antwerp moved **TO PLACE COMMUNICATIONS ON FILE**. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2022-2026



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AMENDMENTS TO
FIVE-YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2022-2026**

MOVE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS TO THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP FIVE-YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2022-2026:

- Page 12 – Administrative Structure was updated with the following to the Role of the Environmental Commission:

D. Role of the Environmental Commission

The Environmental Commission advises the Township Board, officials, and staff on matters pertaining to environmental protection, management of natural resources, water conservation and preservation of open space. The commission is also responsible for the duties of the wetland board; thus it serves in an advisory role in setting policy guidelines on wetland issues, reviews wetland use permits, and develops and promotes wetland education and stewardship.

- Page 70 -- Commissioner Van Antwerp asked to clarify our listed recreation uses of the Rose Lake Wildlife Research Area during the December 14, 2021 virtual Park Commission meeting. In response to her inquiry and further information obtained from Chad Fedewa, Rose Lake State Wildlife Area, the official name of the wildlife area was changed in the plan to read:

Rose Lake State Wildlife Area, State of Michigan.

The description of recreational activities at this location now reads "...Existing facilities provide activities such as hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, cross-country skiing, bird watching and nature observation."

- Page 84 – Land Preserve Inventory acreage was edited to 956 acres.
- Page 97 – Deer Management photo was edited to show hunter with harvested does.
- Page 113 – Goals and Objectives
Continue to focus on Environmental Sustainability, Education and Land Stewardship.

Minutes – Park Commission

January 11, 2022

Page 3

Added:

i. Support the Environmental Commission’s “Protect Our Wetlands” initiative including “Build Back the Buffer”, education, community outreach, marketing and restoration projects, in an effort to mitigate negative impacts of flooding.

- Page 118 – Quality of Life Initiatives - “Climate Sustainability Plan” – Adopted by Meridian Township Board was edited to include adoption date of 10.24.2017. <https://www.meridian.mi.us/home/showpublisheddocument?id=12317>

- Page 118 – Quality of Life Initiatives Added:

Protecting Our Wetlands

Environmental Commission Initiative

***Also added: Appendix A. VII. Wetland Outreach & Restoration Plan**

FOLLOWING TOWNSHIP BOARD ADOPTION ON JANUARY, 25, 2022, THE PLAN WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE TRI-COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION AND ALSO TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT ELIGIBILITY.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER STEPHENS AND COMMISSIONER MCDONALD SECONDED THE MOTION.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Mike McDonald, Ami Van Antwerp, Mary Nardo-Farris

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Park Commission on the 11th of January, 2022.

Mary Nardo-Farris

Mary Nardo-Farris, Chair

Meridian Township Park Commission



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2022-2026

At a regular meeting of the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840, in said Township on the 11th day of January, 2022 at 4:30 pm, Local Time.

PRESENT: Mary Nardo-Farris, Mark Stephens, Mike McDonald, Ami Van Antwerp

ABSENT: Amanda Lick

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Van Antwerp and supported by Commissioner McDonald.

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Park Commission has undertaken a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan update which describes the physical features, existing parks and recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain parks and recreation facilities during the period between 2022 to 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Park Commission began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of Meridian Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource plan, and

WHEREAS, the community was given a well-advertised opportunity to review the final draft plan for at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 virtual via Zoom, to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions and discuss all aspects of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan draft, and

WHEREAS, This 5-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan describes the park and recreation opportunities in Meridian Township and establishes goals, objectives and an overall vision for our community's parks and recreation future. It is intended to be a planning tool and guide for future decision making and application of resources.

Minutes – Park Commission

January 11, 2022

Page 5

WHEREAS, the Plan once approved will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment to meet eligibility requirements for state and federal grants administered by the MDNR from 2022-2026.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PARK COMMISSION OF MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWNSHIP HEREBY RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN 2022-2026 AS A GUIDELINE FOR IMPROVING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THE RESIDENTS OF MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Mark Stephens, Mike McDonald, Ami Van Antwerp, Mary Nardo-Farris

NAYS: None

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

) ss:

COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Chair of the Park Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Park Commission on the 11th of January, 2022.

Mary Nardo-Farris

Mary Nardo-Farris, Chair

Meridian Township Park Commission

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

10. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner McDonald advocates for accessibility at township parks and facilities. Commissioner McDonald is hopeful Senate Bill 704 Covid Recovery Act appropriates federal funds towards Michigan parks and we are able to utilize monies in local parks.

Chair Nardo-Farris emphasized the commission's support to reinstate a Recreation Specialist position within the department.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nardo-Farris adjourned the meeting at 5:54 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is **February 8, 2022** at the Meridian Service Center, 4:30 pm.



6. Communications

Redeemer Church Food Pantry Serving Clinton County

The Redeemer Food Pantry, located inside Redeemer Church in DeWitt, has been in operation since 2006.

Families are able to visit once a month and receive food based on their family size.

The pantry also provides personal care items, like toilet paper, dish soap, shampoo and toothpaste. These items are not covered under food stamps and are always appreciated by the families that visit.

Since we opened in 2006, the Redeemer Food Pantry has provided:

1,289,694 meals to
61,414 men, women, and children
(40% of that number are children under the age of 17)

With the continually support of food drives and monetary donations, we are able to continually provide to these individuals, in hopes of no one going hungry.

Non-perishable donation can be dropped off Monday – Thursday from 8:30 – 4:30pm in the church lobby (door #4).

Monetary donations can be made on-line, under the give button, through our secure link at:
www.myredeemer.church

The Redeemer Food Pantry is open every Tuesday from 10 am – 2 pm & 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm.

This institution purchases USDA food through the Greater Lansing Food Bank and is an equal opportunity provider.

The Redeemer Food Pantry is a 501(c)3 organization and under our grant guidelines clients must live in Clinton County and are allowed to visit our pantry once every 30 days. Referrals can be received through case workers at the Department of Human Services (989-224-5500), through Christian Services (517-394-5411), or clients may also be eligible for a referral if they work with any of the following agencies: MSU Extension, SAFECenter, Capital Area Community Resources, MI Works, Wraparound, Headstart, 8-cap, Lutheran Family Services, WIC, St. Vincent DePaul, Housing Services, Veteran Housing, Mid-Michigan Health Dept and Caring & Sharing.

For more information regarding the food pantry at Redeemer Church contact Suzie Unruh in the church office at 517-669-3430 ext. 312 or foodpantry@dewittredeemer.org

What does a family get when they visit the pantry?

Family of 5:

- 3 boxes of cereal
- 7 cans of tuna & 4 cans chicken
- 1 box granola bars
- 3 cans of baked beans
- 8 cans of vegetables
- 2 boxes biscuit mix
- 2 bags rice
- 5 cans fruit/3 cans applesauce
- 2 peanut butter & 2 jelly
- 6 cans of condensed soup
- 4 cans of chunky/hearty soup
- 2 (6-count) pkg of Ramen Noodles
- 3 boxes instant potatoes
- 2 package gravy mix
- 2 packs taco shells & 2 seasoning
- 6 boxes Hamburger Helper
- 4 cans of pork
- 2 box of saltine crackers
- 5 boxes mac & cheese
- 2 cans of sloppy joe sauce
- 4 bags pasta & 3 spag. sauce
- 1 ketchup & 1 mustard
- 5 cans of tomatoes
- 5 cans of SpaghettiO's
- 5 cans of beef ravioli
- 2 jugs of juice & 4 shelf stable milk
- 2 gallons of fresh milk & 1 butter
- 4lbs ground turkey
- 2 package hotdogs
- 2 package lunch meat
- 2 dozen eggs & 2 loaf of bread
- 2 packages of sliced cheese
- 4 items from miscellaneous
- 1 bottle shampoo & kid shampoo
- 1 toothpaste, 1 bar soap
- 6 toilet paper & 1 paper towel
- laundry pods & 1 dish soap
- feminine pads or tampons
- diapers, wipes & baby formula



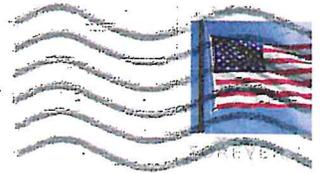
Redeemer Church – DeWitt Campus • 13980 Schavey Road • DeWitt, MI
517-669-3430 • www.myredeemer.church

Updated December 2021

 Redeemer
church DeWitt Campus
13980 Schavey Rd
DeWitt, MI 48820

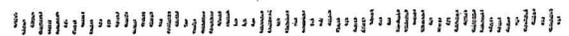
GRAND RAPIDS MI 493

7 FEB 2022 PM 5 L



Meridian Township
Attn: Emma Campbell
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos MI 48864

154-115555



Thank you for the amazing
donation of venison to the
Redeemer Food Pantry! What an
impact this will make to the
families that visit! Your support
in helping us feed those in
need is greatly appreciated!

Blessings

Joie Unruh & the Food
Pantry Team

LuAnn Maisner

From: noreply-migrants@michigan.gov
Sent: Friday, March 4, 2022 9:20 AM
To: LuAnn Maisner
Subject: 5-year recreation plan approved

The 5-year recreation plan for Meridian Charter Township has been approved until 12/31/2026. The grantee is eligible to submit a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund and/or a Recreation Passport Grant application.

LuAnn Maisner

To: Dan Opsommer
Subject: RE: Continue the Deer Reduction Plan

From: Dan Opsommer
Sent: Friday, March 4, 2022 10:44 AM
To: larry.wagenknecht@meridian.mi.us
Cc: Board <Board@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: RE: Continue the Deer Reduction Plan

Mr. Wagenknecht,

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with the Board. We really appreciate your support and kind words for the program as this has been a tremendous undertaking from our Parks, Police and DPW employees. It has been a real team effort by the Board and our employees.

Have a great weekend and thank you again for sharing your thoughts and kind words with us.



Dan Opsommer
 Assistant Township Manager
 Director of Public Works & Engineering
opsommer@meridian.mi.us
 Work: 517.853.4440 | Fax: 517.853.4099
 5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864

From: larry.wagenknecht@meridian.mi.us
Sent: Friday, March 4, 2022 10:37 AM
To: Board <Board@meridian.mi.us>
Subject: Continue the Deer Reduction Plan

Dear Meridian Township Trustees:

I am writing to thank you for your support of the various efforts to reduce the number of deer in Meridian Township. I believe that continuation of these efforts is critical to keep the deer population in check.

The damage to our property prior to the deer control efforts, was extensive. The deer were destroying plants that they are "not supposed" to eat and required fencing and other efforts to protect landscaping that was supposed to be "deer resistant."

With the efforts of the Township over the past couple of years, the amount of destruction has been decreased significantly. With the efforts, we still frequently see deer around our property – just not the herds that we used to see.

I **strongly urge** the Township to continue similar efforts in the future.

Thank you for your efforts to keep the Township a great place to live!



8.A. Roundtable Discussion on Various Topics



To: Park Commissioners

From: LuAnn Maisner CPRP, Director of Parks and Recreation

Date: March 4, 2022

Re: March Meeting Information

Now that the Five Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2022-2027 is completed approved by the DNR; and we have successfully acquired the property on 5280 Okemos Road; and the Deer Management Program has concluded, there are a number of projects and issues that I think would be best tackled by utilizing a roundtable discussion format to work through a few details. These items include:

- Okemos Road Acquisition, demo, site planning
- Grant Programs Final Reimbursements (4)
- Deer Management Final Report
- Celebrate Meridian
- Meridian Heritage Festival
- Floating Islands in Central Park South Pond
- Build Back the Buffer Demonstration Project – Eagle Scout Project
- Love a Park Day – April 20
- Drain Office Prescribed burns this spring in Towar Neighborhood
- ARPA Funding – Possible Park Projects:
 - Historical Village Building Maintenance
 - Wind Screens at Marketplace
 - Restroom Upgrades at Marketplace
 - WIFI at Marketplace
 - Skate Park
 - Universally Accessible Playground Project
- 25th Anniversary of HNC July, 23, 2022
- HNC Native Plant Sale – fundraiser
- Emma- Native seed collection project
- RecPro Registration Software
- July is Parks and Recreation Month - video
- FM Hours and summer concerts
- Community Services Millage Renewal
- Parking lot work NMRP and CPS

I look forward to reporting on some of these topics and obtaining your input on others. Working together to make our community better!