



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 14, 2021 6 PM

---

**To view the virtual meeting directly through Zoom, please visit:**

<https://zoom.us/join>

**Meeting ID: 861 5669 1607**

**Meeting Password: Preserve**

**To participate in public comment during the virtual meeting, please call 517.349.1232**

**If you are unable to access the meeting due to technical difficulties, please contact Director of IT, Stephen Gebes at 517.853.4222 or [gebese@meridian.mi.us](mailto:gebese@meridian.mi.us). Every effort will be made to help you participate in the meeting.**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. APPROVE AGENDA
3. INTRODUCTIONS
  - A. Rebecca Fisher, Stewardship Intern
  - B. Kendra Grassesch, Environmental Commission Representative
4. APPROVE MINUTES
  - A. February 10, 2021 Minutes
5. COMMUNICATIONS
6. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Re-naming preserves
  - B. Foster-Couse Preserve
    - A. Bike trail final decision
7. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Preserve Trail Maintenance: Trailblazer program and volunteer practices within the preserves
  - B. 2021 Financial Support of the Stewardship Network
8. STAFF REPORT
  - A. Stewardship Coordinator
    - B. Stewardship Workdays
      - i. Stewardship Saturdays: Davis-Foster, Tihart, Nancy Moore, Hillbrook
      - ii. Earth Month & spring stewardship events
    - C. Trainings & Workshops
      - i. Invasive Species Field Training
      - ii. Vernal Pool Patrol

---

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 Ct, Haslett, MI 48840

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY  
[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)



**AGENDA**  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 14, 2021 6 PM

---

9. COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021, 6 pm, Davis Foster Preserve.

12. 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 Ct., Haslett, MI 48840

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY  
meridian.mi.us



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Zoom Meeting  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Yu Man Lee; Steve Thomas, Mark Stephens, Jamie Hiller, Chanelle Russ, Kris Parnell  
ABSENT: None.  
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator  
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee, Dan Opsommer

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVE AGENDA**

**BOARD MEMBER Stephens MOVED TO APPROVE Agenda. Board Member Opsommer seconded.**

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBER OPSOMMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 9, 2020 MINUTES. Seconded by Board Member Stephens.**

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS – NONE**

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Re-Naming Preserve Properties
  - 1. Update list
  - 2. Create a Doodle poll for board members to vote on top two names of their choice for each preserve to be renamed.
- B. Stewardship Internship: updated board members on applications and outline of job.
- C. Using old wood for boardwalks and such
  - 1. Board Member Stephens inquires if we could we use dead ash trees in Foster-Crouse for boardwalks across the wet area
  - 2. Discussion results in the following: Any movement of down dead woody debris must be done carefully. Any sensitive areas must be avoided.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

**Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board**

**February 10, 2021**

Page 2 of 3

Vice Chair Hiller opens the floor for nominations for **Chair**.

**TRUSTEE OPSOMER MOVED TO NOMINATE JAMIE HILLER AS CHAIR.  
Board Member Lee seconded.**

Board Member Hiller accepted the nomination.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

NAYS: None.

Chair opens the floor for nomination for **Vice Chair**.

**BOARD MEMBER LEE MOVED, TO NOMINATE STEVE THOMAS AS VICE CHAIR. Board Member Stephens seconded.**

Board Member Thomas accepted the nomination.

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

Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Mark Stephens, Yu Man Lee, Kris Parnell, Chanelle Russ, Dan Opsommer, Jamie Hiller

NAYS: None.

B. 2020 Annual Report & Joint Meeting summary

1. Staff member Campbell presented the 2020 Annual Report and Township Board Joint Meeting summary.

C. 2021 Land Preservation & Stewardship Goals

1. Staff member Campbell presented the 2021 Land Preservation and Stewardship Program goals and opened the plan up for discussion from the board.
  - i. Items that board members would like to add to 2021 goals
    1. Davis-Foster Preserve improvements
      - a. Build a wildlife observation overlook. Designs and budget have already been discussed in the past, staff member Campbell will look into this further.
      - b. Due to graffiti incidents on the Davis-Foster maintenance barn, the board discusses the addition of a mural and security lights and cameras.
      - c. Board Member Parnell discusses road signage for turtle

**Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board**

**February 10, 2021**

Page 3 of 3

crossings due to Blanding's Turtle crossings in the past.

**D. 2021 Meeting Schedule Resolution**

1. Bi-monthly September through March
  - a. Necessary meetings can be called on off months
  - b. Monthly Staff Report will be emailed on off months
2. May – September meetings will be held outdoors at pre-selected preserves

**VICE CHAIR THOMAS MOVED TO AMEND THE 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE A ZOOM MEETING NOVEMBER 10, 2021 INSTEAD OF THE PROPOSED MEETING ON OCTOBER 13, 2021. Board Member Stephens seconded.**

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

**7. STAFF REPORT**

**A. Stewardship Coordinator**

- A. After a hiatus, Stewardship Workdays resume on Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- B. Invasive Species Training Webinar took place on January 23<sup>rd</sup> with 37 total participants. A follow-up field training is scheduled for March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

**8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE**

**9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS - NONE**

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 14th 2021, 6 pm, over Zoom.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Seconded by Vice Chair Thomas.**

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.



**To: Land Preservation Advisory Board**  
**From: Emma Campbell**  
**Stewardship Coordinator**  
**Date: April 14, 2021**  
**Re: 2021 Financial Support of the Stewardship Network**

---

The Land Preservation Advisory Board became a member of The Stewardship Network in 2009. The Stewardship Network is a grassroots cooperative organization working to protect, restore, and manage Michigan's natural lands and waters. It helps individuals, organizations, and businesses manage specific sites through sharing ideas, resources, and information. Our Mid-Michigan Cluster of the Stewardship Network (MMSI) involves the community in conserving native plants and wildlife in all their natural diversity.

The MMSI is supportive of our regional efforts due to the following:

- They continue providing useful connections to statewide experts, including all the other cluster coordinators, as well as connections with other professionals who provide free consulting when we have specific needs (e.g. how to effectively track multidimensional data about invasive species, river monitoring data, and ownership along riparian corridors).
- They help us develop valuable new regional partnerships as well as collaboration with local residents who wish to manage invasive species on their private land.

Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative would use our \$2,500 in local support in the following ways:

- Carry out our wetland invasive species control efforts (Phragmites, Japanese Knotweed, and garlic mustard in particular) on more than 100 sites throughout Meridian Township. The funding would provide supplies needed to carry out this work.
- Help Meridian Twp. Staff (Parks, LPAB, Planning and Public Works) with questions and technical needs related to invasive species control and native plant restoration.
- Support free public workshops that provide interpretive tours of regional natural areas led by experts and provide hands-on learning for invasive species control, native plant identification, aquatic invasive species ID and control and other topics.
- The work done by the MMSI aligns with Meridian's Invasive Species Management Plan and will help the Township reach management goals.

We are proposing a \$5,000 contribution to the Stewardship Network. The support will be divided 50-50 with \$2,500 going to the Stewardship Network and \$2,500 to the Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative, to be held/dispensed through the Friends of Ingham County Parks account. This latter half will aid stewardship efforts at Lake Lansing North Preserve.

---

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 Ct, Haslett, MI 48840

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY  
meridian.mi.us

**Memo to Land Preservation Advisory Board**

**April 14, 2021**

**Re: 2021 Financial Support of the Stewardship Network**

**Page 2**

The following motion is proposed:

**MOVE** that the Land Preservation Advisory Board approve the expenditure of \$5,000.00 of maintenance funds for the purpose of supporting the Stewardship Network. \$2,500.00 of the total should be allocated to the Mid-Michigan Cluster of the Stewardship Network.

# #EARTHMONTH WITH THE CORPS!

"JOIN THE MERIDIAN CONSERVATION  
CORPS THIS MONTH AND MAKE  
EVERYDAY EARTH DAY!"



**APRIL 3RD 9:30AM - 12PM STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**

**PULL SPRING INVASIVE SPECIES**

**AT HILLBROOK PARK**



**APRIL 10TH 11 AM - 1:30 PM**

**TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**

**HELP SPRUCE UP TRAILS AT  
FOSTER-CROUSE PRESERVE**



**APRIL 17TH 9:30 - 12 PM**

**PULL SPRING INVASIVES AT  
TED BLACK WOODS**



**APRIL 24TH 9:30 - 12 PM**

**EARTH DAY CLEANUP AT TIHART-  
CORNELL WETLAND**

**1:30 - 3 PM**

**EARTHY DAY GM PULL AT HARRIS  
NATURE CENTER**



EMAIL [ECAMPBELL@MERIDIAN.MI.US](mailto:ECAMPBELL@MERIDIAN.MI.US) OR CALL 517.853.4614

# MARCH EVENTS



- **MARCH 8TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 13TH: INVASIVE SPECIES FIELD TRAINING**
  - 10 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 20TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - CUTTING INVASIVE SHRUBS 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **MARCH 27TH: SESSION 1 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
  - 9 AM - 11 AM ZOOM WEBINAR (MORE TO COME IN APRIL)
  - OVERVIEW OF VERNAL POOLS & HOW TO JOIN THE PATROL



# APRIL EVENTS

- **APRIL 3RD: SESSION 2 VERNAL POOL PATROL TRAINING WORKSHOP**
  - 12 PM - 2 PM ZOOM WEBINAR
  - 3:30 PM - 5 PM FIELD TRAINING (FIELD TECHNIQUES AT A LOCAL VERNAL POOL)
- **APRIL 10TH: TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
  - 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM @ FOSTER-CROUSE PRESERVE
- **APRIL 17TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - INVASIVE PULL 9:30 AM - 12 PM
- **APRIL 24TH: MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY CLEAN UP**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM CLEAN UP CREW @ TIHART-CORNELL WETLAND
  - 1:30 PM 3:30 PM INVASIVE PULL @ HARRIS NATURE CENTER



# MAY EVENTS

- **MAY 1ST: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TOWAR WOODS PLANTING**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
  - NATIVE TREE PLANTING @ TOWAR WOODS PRESERVE (TIME TBD)
- **MAY 8TH: MONARCH WAY-STATION SPRING CLEANING**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM @ HARTRICK PARK MONARCH GARDEN
- **MAY 15TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY & TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
  - 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM TRAILBLAZERS WORKDAY @ PONDEROSA PRESERVE
- **MAY 22ND: PLANTING A NATIVE MERIDIAN**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM PLANT NATIVE SPECIES @ THE TOWNSHIP SERVICE CENTER
- **MAY 29TH: STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY**
  - 9:30 AM - 12 PM INVASIVE PULL

