

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
Meridian Municipal Building – Town Hall Room
June 1, 2016 - APPROVED**

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chair McConnell, Vice-Chair Schools, Commissioners Sarver, Dickmann, Jackson and Kielbaso

ABSENT: Commissioner Masten

STAFF: Harmony Gmazel, AICP, Associate Planner

OTHERS: Members of the Public

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Approved by consent without objection.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MAY 4, 2016 SPECIAL/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.

Approved by consent without objection.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair McConnell announced that he attended work sessions of the Planning Commission pertaining to the Master Plan Update. Topics of interest to the EC include three future areas of the township that are planned for increased density. Walkable connections between existing pathways, jobs, schools, homes and businesses are a priority. The Parks Department approached Chair McConnell asking for aid involving a future park improvement project. Chair McConnell invited the EC and members of the public to a workshop hosted by the Land Information Access Association on "Climate Health Adaptation Planning" on June 2nd at the MML offices in Lansing.

6. STAFF REPORT

None

7. COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Land Preservation: J. Kielbaso reported that the Board is in final negotiations on two properties. A small property on the south side of Lake Lansing went in front of the Township Board for acceptance recently. A small federal grant was awarded to the Board to re-establish native grasses on the 7-acre Sturk property off Hagadorn Rd. Commissioner Kielbaso invited the EC and members of the public to a "seedball" event at the Foster-Davis Property on June 3 at 11am. Native seeds will be dispersed

across the prairie by volunteers at the event. The Land Preservation Board recommended Ben Holland as a potential Student Environmental Commissioner.

Energy Team: J. Sarver reported that there was an Energy Team meeting in May. The Climate Action Plan is underway. A Consultant has been hired by the township to complete an energy efficiency audit of 5 Township-owned buildings. Commissioner Sarver invited the EC and members of the public to the Energy Fair being held at the Ingham County Fairgrounds on June 24 & 25. More info is at www.gjrea.org

Student Engagement: None

Parks: None

8. **GREEN THEME PRESENTATION: “ A GROUNDWATER QUALITY SURVEY FOR INGHAM COUNTY” BY GARRY ROWE ON BEHALF OF THE INGHAM CO. BOARD OF HEALTH** To view the presentation, visit HOMTV at this link: http://meridian.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=11. A follow-up presentation will be provided to the EC once Mr. Rowe’s research is complete over the coming year.

9. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

None

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Chair McConnell, approved by consent without objection at 8:05 p.m.