



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAKE LANSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Administrative Conference Room
Tuesday, July 9, 2019 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Curt Armbruster (tier1); Robert Hollenshead (tier1); Tim McCarthy (tier1);
Steve Culling (tier2); Larry Wagenknecht (tier2)
ABSENT: Ron Rowe (tier1); Paul Pratt (ICDC); Coe Emens (ICP)

STAFF/

TOWNSHIP: Younes Ishraidi

COUNTY:

Others: Pam Tynning (Progressive e/a); Jim Folkening; Carla Luberto; Ryan Lowe; Marv
Johansen; Dave Card

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Armbruster called the meeting to order at **5:30 pm**.

2. PUBLIC REMARKS

Mr. Jim Folkening spoke regarding the need to know more information concerning the weed's management; he suggested possibly another public meeting or a newsletter.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following agenda items were approved unanimously:

- A. Approval of Minutes
- A. Herbicide Treatment Update
- B. Harvesting Update
- C. Natural Shoreland Initiative Update
- D. Annual Public Meeting Remarks
- E. Boat Launch Issues
- F. Miscellaneous

3A. Approval of Minutes

The May 14, 2019 meeting minutes were approved with three spelling corrections.

3B. Herbicide Treatment Update

Pam Tynning, the lake consultant, stated that she was on the lake today with three regulators from EGLE to review and assess the weeds. It was not clear why the Eurasian milfoil (EMF) is not dying out following the second Fluridone treatment. Pam stated that there was speculation that the EMF in Lake Lansing may have developed immunity to the Fluridone treatment. Pam noted that this situation is not unique to Lake Lansing. It was also noted that the applicator has contacted the herbicide maker to inquire about the quality of the herbicide used and any warranties.

Minutes – Lake Lansing Advisory Committee

July 9, 2019

Page 2

Pam added that the floating weed is Elodea which is a native plant, and she is in discussion with EGLE about using the herbicide “Diquat” to treat the Elodea.

Tim McCarty argued that maybe another approach should be seriously considered to address the heavy weed problem; he suggested exploring dredging again as was done 40 years ago. An ensuing discussion followed with pros & cons to dredging. Pam cautioned that aside from the high cost of dredging, the invasive plants will likely populate the dredged areas, and dredging is not typically used to control aquatic plants but she’s willing to look into the costs associated with this, including the cost of a dredging study. It was also argued that any weed control benefits that may result from dredging may only last few years, 5 to 10 years, similar to the last dredging. As such, the dredging study should have a cost/benefit or ROI analysis.

3C. Harvesting Update

The harvester stopped harvesting before the 4th of July holiday. Chair Armbruster stated that the harvester was taking too long, about an hour, to transport the weeds to the Lansing garden’s site. He added that he knows of a nearby site that may be used if the committee is willing to consider. The second related possibility is to discuss finding another location on county parks’ property with easier access, other than or in addition to the boat launch for the harvester to off-load harvested weeds.

3D. Natural Shoreland Initiative Update

Pam Stated that the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership is interested in using Lake Lansing as a training site as was previously discussed. One of the candidate sites is located on Park property at the end of Lake Lansing Road east of the new dock and the bio-swale. She added that the Park’s Manager, Coe Emens is on board with the proposed plan. Pam also stated that she had discussed this project with the owner of the Mayfair restaurant as he was concerned about losing access to boat docking area used by his customers. Pam explained to him that there will be adequate room for the demonstration project without restricting the boat access area.

3C. Annual Public Meeting Remarks

Chair Armbruster stated that he received a lot of negative comments about the recent public meeting, and then asked the committee to consider a different format in the future. After a brief discussion, there was a consensus to conduct the future public SAD meeting on a separate date from the LLPOA meeting.

3D. Boat Launch Issues

It was noted that the power washer was only spraying softly and not near what’s needed to clean the boats. Younes will follow up with the Park’s Manager regarding this issue. The committee also reiterated the need to change the layout of the wash area and requested further discussion with the county about using grant money to that end.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Armbruster adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.