



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Meridian Township Service Center – Outside
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 5:30 pm

PRESENT: Commissioners Michael McDonald, Mark Stephens Stephens, Ami Van Antwerp, Mary Nardo-Farris, and Chair Amanda Lick

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jane Greenway, Parks and Land Management Coordinator; Derek Perry, Director of Engineering and Public Works

WORK SESSION

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 5:31pm

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Van Antwerp moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Masterplan Recommendations – Deputy Director Perry reviewed the plan recommendations. The Commissioners supported the recommendations and also supported prioritizing construction of the Towner Road pathway to provide safe access to Towner Road Park.

4. ADJOURNMENT -5:58PM

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Lick called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS - NONE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Farris moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, MAY 18, 2021 REGULAR MEETING.** Seconded by Commissioner Van Antwerp.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

4. COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Masterplan Recommendations

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER STEPHENS, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER MCDONALD, TO SUPPORT THE 2021 PEDESTRIAN- BICYCLE PATHWAY MASTERPLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED WITH A REQUEST TO PRIORITIZE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PATHWAY ALONG TOWNER ROAD TO ACCOMMODATE SAFER ACCESS TO TOWNER ROAD PARK.

VOICE VOTE: SUPPORTED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Meeting Calendar for Remainder of 2021

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER VAN ANTWERP, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER FARRIS TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2021:

Tuesday, July 13 – 4:30 pm Hartrick Park (Location changed to Meridian Township Service Bldg.)

Tuesday, August 10 – 4:30 pm Towner Road Park

Tuesday, September 14 – 4:30 pm Zoom

Tuesday, October 12 – 4:30 Meridian Service Center

Tuesday, November 9 – 4:30 pm Town Hall

December – no meeting

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2022 Budget Discussion – Director Maisner shared that the budget process is now underway for 2022. She is meeting with staff currently to determine needs for next year and will provide a draft budget for consideration in the next two weeks.

B. Ribbon Cutting Events – With completion of the grant projects at Harris Nature Center and Central Park, it is time to notify the community of these new amenities!

C. Universal Access Advisory Board - Parks and Land Management Coordinator, Jane Greenway has issued a press release to the community to obtain members to serve on our Universal Access Advisory Board. The purpose of this group is to review park plans and visit our park facilities to provide input on how we can improve their park experience. This will be an important element in our master plan update.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Micro pantry update – Staff worked with the Girl Scout troop to find a new home for their micro-pantry project with a local business. A better solution was found for this project.

B. Acquisition Update – The grant agreement has been executed, the purchase agreement drafted, and we are now waiting to receive the updated appraisal. Once the appraisal is received, staff will move forward.

- C. Fishing Derby** – Saturday, June 26, 9am-noon
- D. Farmers Market** – going strong 3,000 visitors 60 vendors
- E. Five Year Parks and Recreation master plan update** – much of the base info has been updated. Need to look at survey questions and community input sessions. Meetings at neighborhood parks?
- F. Love a Park Day** – Wednesday, June 16
- G. Budget 2022** – Maintenance and Repair, Towner Playground
- H. LEAP Art Grant Status** – Second bid opening this Thursday
- I. Labyrinth**- waiting on installation prices
- J. Pavilion Rentals and Trash**
- K. HNC camps full** – 400+ children
- L. Youth soccer ended** with 400 participants
- M. Youth baseball, softball and tee ball for Okemos, Haslett and Williamston** started this week with 460 players

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

9. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, Chair Lick adjourned the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to be Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 4:30 pm, Meridian Township Service Building.