

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
Meridian Municipal Building – Town Hall Room
November 3, 2016**

WORK SESSION

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach, Senior Planner Peter Menser

OTHERS: Planning Commission Chair John Scott-Craig, Judy Linn

1. CALL SPECIAL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE WORK SESSION AGENDA

Approved by consent without objection.

3. WORK ITEMS

A. Recommendations on draft Master Plan

Chair McConnell explained the map showing the intersection of elements of the Township Greenspace Plan, land preservation properties, and other land uses. He also described the efforts by the Environmental Commission to make a recommendation to the Planning Commission regarding the master plan currently under review. Environmental Commission discussion included the following:

- Difference between the concept of a park versus open space in the context of land use
- The importance of connecting green space corridors
- Question on preferred categorization of parks and land preservation
- Update on history of discussions related to an urban service boundary
- Concern with showing private property as open space on future land use map
- Consideration of adding conservation areas to future land use map
- Desire to convene a work group to further discuss the future land map categories

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

Judy Linn shared her experiences as a private property owner of a large tract of property with regard to trespassers and the assumption by members of the public that the property is open for hiking, exploring, etc.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Approved by consent without objection at approximately 7:25 p.m.