



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Township Service Center
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI
Wednesday, March 9th, 2022, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Yu Man Lee, Kendra Grassesschi, Mark Stephens.
ABSENT: Board Members: Chanelle Russ.
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Township Trustee, Dan Opsommer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CHAIR HILLER MOVED TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:11 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. NONE.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A. May 11, 2022

BOARD MEMBER GRASSESSCHI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 9, 2022 LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA. Board Member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. February 9, 2022

BOARD MEMBER GRASSESSCHI MOVED TO MAKE A CORRECTION ON THE HARRIS NATURE CENTER PLANT SALE DATE FROM MAY 14 TO MAY 7 AND THE NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOP FROM MARCH 23 TO MARCH 22, UNDER ITEM 6A.

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MAKES A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMMENDMENTS MADE TO THE MARCH 9, 2022 MINUTES, AND PLACE THEM ON FILE. Board Member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. INTRODUCTION

A. 2022 Township Board Representative

1. Trustee Courtney Wisinski introduces herself, gives education and career history, as well as her current work with the Township Board.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. None.

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7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Haslett Road Property Trade, Lake Lansing South Preserve

1. Conclusion of tree inventory: no native trees of any significant ecological value were found in the survey of land preservation property.

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MAKES A MOTION TO APPROVE DISCUSSIONS MOVING FORWARD FOR THE LAKE LANSING SOUTH PRESERVE POTENTIAL PROPERTY TRADE. Board Member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. **(CLOSED SESSION BEGINS)** Land Acquisition

BOARD MEMBER PARNELL MAKES A MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION. Board Member Grassesschi seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Kendra Grassesschi, Courtney Wisinski, Mark Stephens, Yu Man Lee.

Nays: None.

1. Procedure moving forward to express interest in Parcel A, Parcel B, and Parcel C located on Cornell Road
 - a. Before moving forward Staff Member Campbell discusses starting the process of reviewing the scoring criteria for potential land acquisition parcels.
 - b. Land Acquisition Process
 - i. Send letter of interest, Land Preservation Program Application, as well informational brochure for the program
 - ii. If the landowner is interested, they will return a signed application that allows the board to visit the site for ecological survey.
 - iii. A site visit to the parcel will be scheduled.
 - iv. Once the board conducts a survey of the land, an appraisal would be ordered to pursue acquisition.
 - v. Negotiations can then be started. Appraisal price are generally the upper limit of negotiations.
 - c. Staff Member Campbell will move forward to send letters of interest to both property owners of Parcel A, B, and C.

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BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MAKES A MOTION TO END CLOSED SESSION.

Board Member Parnell seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Kendra Grassesschi, Courtney Wisinski, Mark Stephens, Yu Man Lee.

Nays: None.

(CLOSED SESSION ENDS)

BOARD MEMBER STEPHENS MOVES TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION. Board Member Parnell seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Unanimous.

B. 2022 Goals

1. Expansion of programs, & contractual work for invasive species management
 - a. Land Preserve name signage and name change to be implemented in fall of 2022. Rule signage will also be implemented at all preserves.
 - b. Contractual Work: Identifying areas that will make good candidates for contractual work. Mapping of invasive species in summer of 2021, will aid in creating a list of priority sites for contractual investment.
 - c. Trash removal in areas such as Mandenberg Woods Preserve and Central Meridian Uplands Preserve.

10. REPORTS

- A. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell
 1. Gearing up for Earth month and spring invasive species management, which will focus on removal of herbaceous species. Trash removal will also be a large focus. Demonstration vegetation buffer will be installed at Central Park South as part of the Build Back the Buffer campaign. An Eagle Scout has agreed to take on the project.
- B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Kendra Grassesschi
 1. The Environmental Commission will be receiving input from other boards on the Climate Sustainability Plan. Place it on the Land Preservation Agenda for the May meeting.
- C. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Mark Stephens
 1. Installation of floating islands at Central Park South – great demonstration area for storm water management, along with the native plant buffer installation taking place.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

12. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- A. Next meeting is scheduled to be a site visit to Lake Lansing North Preserve to survey the ecological burn area. Meet on April 13, 2022 at 6 pm at 1000 Wild Ginger Trail. No formal agenda will be presented.

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13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 6 pm, at the Township Service Center.

14. ADJOURNMENT

CHAIR HILLER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:10 PM. Vice Chair Thomas seconded.

VOICE VOTE: Unanimous.