



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Date, Time July 17, 2018; 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Chair, Michael McDonald; Commissioner Annika Schaetzl; Commissioner Mark Stephens

EXCUSED: Commissioners Lick and Wisinski

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Department Director

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McDonald called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 pm

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Stephens moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 12, 2018 Regular Minutes

Commissioner Schaetzl moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Chair McDonald.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Towner Road Park Status – done! Kickball tournament this fall, open to public in spring 2019
- B. North Meridian Road Park Pavilion Status – Rescheduled installation due to excessive water, should be THIS WEEK!
- C. Dog Park Status – Bids were received and awarded for fencing for both the large dog and small dog areas. Areas have been identified in Central Park. Waiting on the results of the wetland delineation from our environmental consultant.
- D. Central Park Improvements status – contract was signed with Wolverine Engineering and Surveyors. Kick-off meeting was held. Wetlands will be delineated soon by our Environmental Consultant (FTCH)
- E. Grant agreements – Frank Walsh signed Trust Fund grant agreement for action from the DNR. The project is the new pavilion at Harris Nature Center, private donor will donate 25K, the Foundation received a 25K Community Foundation Grant!

Minutes – Park Commission

July 17, 2018

Page 2 of 4

- F. Celebrate Meridian – Saturday, June 30, 2018 11am-11pm in Central Park – huge success!!! HOT but fun! numbers were down due to heat but that was ok, shorter lines at food trucks and everything else
- G. Farmers' Market Status – Finalizing property control now. Next up is working on design and engineering for the project.
- H. Towar Rec Center – 35 State Police staff are painting inside and out tomorrow, July 18
- I. Rec on the Move – HUGE success! Events were held at Snell-Towar Recreation Center, Central Park. Kids tie dyed and played games, participated in a nature scavenger hunt, and planted sunflowers.
- J. Ottawa Hills Park: Staff and Commissioners met with neighbors, My Little Library was bought, other improvements coming soon. Distributed an updated recommendation/action plan
- K. Orlando Park Storybook Walk – new story is “Chicka chicka boom boom” by Bill Martin and it will be in the park until October.
- L. Parks and Recreation Coordinator Darcie Weigand gave birth to a boy and will be on maternity leave until end of September.

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program

Commissioner Schaetzl moved **TO APPROVE THE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LIST FOR 2019 INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: CENTRAL MERIDIAN REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTOR; GATEWAY FOOTBRIDGE; HNC PAVILION; HNC RESTROOM; FARMERS' MARKET RELOCATION PLAN.** Supported by Commissioner Stephens

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2019 Park Development Budget Request

Commissioner Stephens moved **TO APPROVE THE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LIST FOR 2019 INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: CENTRAL MERIDIAN REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTOR; GATEWAY FOOTBRIDGE; HNC PAVILION; HNC RESTROOM; FARMERS' MARKET RELOCATION PLAN.** Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

Roll Call:

AYES: Chair Michael McDonald, Commissioner Stephens, Commissioner Schaetzl

NAYS: None

Motion passed.

C. Resolution to recognize July as Park and Recreation Month

Commissioner Schaetzl moved the following resolution:

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including County of Ingham, Township of Meridian; and

WHEREAS our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens,

and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs increase a community's economic prosperity through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation areas are fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS the Meridian Township Park Commission recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN PARK COMMISSION THAT JULY IS RECOGNIZED AS PARK AND RECREATION MONTH IN MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP.

Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

Roll Call:

AYES: Chair Michael McDonald, Commissioner Stephens, Commissioner Schaeztl

NAYS: None

Motion/Resolution passed.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

10. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Next Park Commission Meeting: Tuesday, August 14, 2018

B. Event Calendar:

1. Rec on the Move! – July 24 – Hillbrook Park/Games and Sports
2. Rec on the Move! – July 31 – Wonch Park/Family Olympics

Minutes – Park Commission

July 17, 2018

Page 4 of 4

C. Meridian Farmers Summer/Fall Market: Wednesdays and Saturdays; 8 am – 2 pm

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McDonald adjourned the meeting at 7:43 pm.

12. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 14, 2018** in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI. Work Session at 6 pm and Regular Meeting at 7 pm.

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.