



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Township Service Center  
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court | Haslett, MI  
Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Kathy Fay, Mark Stephens.  
ABSENT: Yu Man Lee.  
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator.  
TOWNSHIP: James McCurtis.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Hiller called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: JENNIFER HAYES (2687 E LAKE LANSING RD), KEVIN TRACY (2751 STILL VALLEY DR.), LISA VANDERMEER (2750 STIL VALLEY DR.)

- A. Heritage Hill neighborhood has a nearby parcel for sale they are recommending for the Land Preservation Program.
- B. The property is owned by Michigan Conference of the United Christ. Neighboring residents feel the parcel being converted into greenspace would provide recreational opportunities and protect the wetland located on the property.
- C. Residents inquired what the acquisition process entails and what next steps would be for this property recommendation. Chair Hiller addresses the procedure for acquisition and factors we look for in the land that is for sale.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

- A. July 10, 2024

**Board member Fay moved to approve the July 10, 2024 Agenda to place on file. Vice Chair Thomas seconded.**

**Voice vote: unanimous.**

4. APPROVE MINUTES

- A. June 12, 2024

**Board Member Fay makes a motion to place the June 12, 2024 minutes on file. Board Member Parnell seconded.**

**Voice vote: Unanimous.**

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Ribbon Cutting August 14, 2024 at Davis Foster Preserve at 6 pm to reveal new name & rule signage, as well as ongoing signage improvements.

# Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

July 10, 2024

Page 2 of 6

Board member Parnell moved to place communications on file. Board Member Fay seconded.

Voice vote: unanimous.

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Heron Creek Preserve (see Exhibit A in July packet)
  - A. Land use history
  - B. Past & present stewardship efforts
  - C. Future goals, projects, and recent donation

## 8. REPORTS

- D. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell
  - a. Trustee McCurtis is the new liaison for the Township Board to the Land Preservation Advisory Board. Has served on the planning commission and zoning board.
  - b. Update on current preservation projects & issues
  - c. Stewardship Field Work: floristic surveys starting in July & August, invasive species management (Japanese hedge parsley, sweet clover, veronica), creating access trails in preserves that need it (Tihart Preserve)
    - i. Scouting for native seed collection sites. Species collected so far; blue eyed grass, purple stemmed angelica
    - ii. MCC July Stewardship Calendar

1.



The graphic is a calendar for July 2024, titled "JULY STEWARDSHIP". It features a blue header with the word "STEWARDSHIP" in large white letters. Below the header is a calendar grid with days of the week (S, M, T, W, T, F, S) and dates from 1 to 31. The grid is decorated with images of butterflies and flowers. Key events are highlighted in colored boxes: July 13th (Native Planting at Davis Foster Preserve), July 27th (Native Planting at Tihart Preserve), July 18th (hand pull Japanese hedge parsley), July 16th (Trailside Ecology River Walk Edition), and July 18th (Weekday Warriors). A note indicates that Township Offices are closed on July 4th. A footer note states: "ALL EVENTS ARE WEATHER DEPENDENT & MAY BE CANCELLED THE DAY OF".

- E. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Commissioner Yu Man Lee
  - a. Commissioner Lee is absent, there nothing to report since the Commission did not meet in July.
- F. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Commissioner Mark Stephens
  - a. Nothing to report.

**Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board**

**July 10, 2024**

Page 3 of 6

9. PUBLIC COMMENT: JENNIFER HAYES (2687 E LAKE LANSING RD), KEVIN TRACY (2751 STILL VALLEY DR.),

- A. Residents are very appy to hear about the stewardship work happening in the Township
  - a. STEM night – Kevin Tracy would like a representative to attend the STEM night to have a demonstration. He will reach out to staff.

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

- A. Board member Fay has rain barrels to give away. Staff advises to contact LeRoy Harvey.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6 pm at the Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840.

12. ADJOURNMENT

**Board member Parnell moved to adjourn the meeting. Board member Fay seconded.**

**Voice vote: Unanimous**

**Chair Hiller adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm.**

# **Exhibit**

# **A**

## **Tihart Property Land Use Map (pre-acquisition)**

# **Exhibit**

# **B**

## **Tihart Preserve Stewardship & Land Management Efforts**