



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday November 8, 2023 6:00 pm
Township Service Center
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett MI

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENT
3. APPROVE AGENDA
 - A. November 8, 2023
4. APPROVE MINUTES
 - A. October 11, 2023
5. COMMUNICATIONS
 - A. None.
6. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. Stewardship Goals for 2024
 - a. Discussion of 2024 Stewardship Goals and input from board members
 - B. Red Cedar River Pledge; reducing the amount of electric scooters in the Red Cedar River/
Becoming a good community partner to support this initiative.
7. REPORTS
 - A. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell
 - a. Update on current preservation projects & issues
 - i. Cornell-Sweetwood Update
 - ii. Update on preservation signage
 - iii. Lake Lansing South Preserve
 - iv. Meridian Conservation Corps Events
 - B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Kendra Grassesschi
 - C. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Mark Stephens
8. PUBLIC COMMENT
9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6 pm at the Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett Michigan 48840.
11. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Land Preservation Advisory Board by contacting: Director LuAnn Maisner, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.

Meeting Location: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Lake Lansing North Preserve
1000 Wild Ginger Trail | Haslett, MI
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: Jamie Hiller, Steve Thomas, Kris Parnell, Yu Man Lee, Kendra Grassesschi, Mark Stephens, Kathy Fay.
ABSENT: None.
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator
TOWNSHIP: Courtney Wisinski.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

CHAIR HILLER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:01 PM.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A. October 11, 2023

Board Member Fay moved to approve the October 11, 2023 Agenda to place on file. Board Member Parnell seconded.

Voice vote: unanimous.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A. September 13, 2023

Board Member Parnell makes a motion to place the September 13, 2023 minutes on file as amended. Commissioner Grassesschi seconded.

Voice vote: Unanimous.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Board member term limits

a. Reappointments will be conducted by the Township Board for Board Members Hiller, Lee, Thomas, and Fay.

b. No term limits have been imposed on Land Preservation Advisory Board Members per the Ordinance and procedures put in place.

B. Red Cedar River Stewardship Pledge

a. Staff has been working with Michigan Waterways Stewards on Red Cedar River Pledge to collaborate on river cleanups, stewardship, monitoring, and promotion through the community.

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Board Member Fay makes a motion to place COMMUNICATIONS on file. Board Member Lee seconded.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Stewardship Goals for 2024

a. Staff informs board members that Stewardship Goals for 2024 will be open for input at the November 8th meeting. Board members are asked to bring any suggestions with them at this time.

b. Board Member Parnell requests the Land Preservation budget for this meeting.

B. Lake Lansing North Preserve Stewardship Initiatives

a. Stewardship work happening at Lake Lansing North is the foundation of how we would like stewardship to be implemented at all preserves in the future.

b. This includes the integration of prescribed fire (where necessary), Integrative Pest Management of invasive species, native plant installations, native seed collection, and floristic surveys.

7. REPORTS

A. STAFF REPORT: Stewardship Coordinator, Emma Campbell

a. Update on current preservation projects & issues

i. Cornell-Sweetwood Update

1. No update as of now, Township lawyers are still working on completing the Purchase Agreement.

ii. Preserve rule signage: signs are now delivered and parks utility workers will add signage in the fall as their workload allows.

iii. Lake Lansing South Preserve Mowing Policy

1. Mowing from neighbors continues on the preserve

2. Stewardship plans will move forward, managing invasive teasel

3. 1442 Haslett Road parcel delineation is still under legal review

B. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Kendra Grassesschi

a. Commissioner Grassesschi has nothing to report.

C. PARK COMMISSION REPORT: Board Member, Mark Stephens

a. Commissioner Stephens has nothing to report.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

10. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

A. Board member Steve Thomas has been awarded the volunteer of the year in Meridian Township. The Township Board will recognize him at their November 9th meeting at Town Hall at 6 pm.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6 pm at the Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840.

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12. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Fay moves to adjourn the meeting. Board Member Lee seconded.

Chair Hiller adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

2024 Land Preservation & Stewardship Budget

Budget for Stewardship Assistance

Stewardship Coordinator Assistant (Intern Position)

- Seasonal position
 - Up to 40 hours/week May through September
 - Up to 20 hours/week part time September through April
- Starting pay up to \$16 per hour depending on prior experience
 - **Budget for \$21,000**

Stewardship Seasonal Position for Preserve Grounds Maintenance (Field Assistant)

- Seasonal position
 - Up to 40 hours/week May through August
 - Up to 20 hours per week September through April
- Starting pay \$16 per hour
 - **Budget for \$21,000**

Total = \$42,000

Budget for Professional/Contractual Services

Prescribed Burns

- Lake Lansing North Preserve Spring/Fall Burn (In case proper conditions do not exist in 2023)
 - **Budget for \$8,000**
- Davis Foster Burn Unit 4
 - **Budget for \$9,000**
- Red Cedar Glen Preserve
 - **Budget for \$6,000**

Invasive Species management & herbicide treatment

- Professional treatment (contractual) of invasive phragmites across 7 Township sites
 - **Budget for \$7,000**
- Professional treatment (contractual) of invasive black locust stand at Davis Foster Preserve
 - **Budget for \$5,000**
- Professional treatment (contractual) of invasive Japanese knotweed at two locations in the Township
 - **Budget for \$2,500**
- Purchase of chemical herbicide & application tools & equipment (utilized by staff members, not contractual services)
 - **Budget for \$5,000**

Forestry Mulcher Rental

- Rental of forestry mulcher for mechanical management of invasive species across several land preserves, Towar Woods Preserve is priority for this management, as well as Davis Foster Preserve

- **Budget for \$15,000**

Total = \$57,500

Equipment & supplies for grounds maintenance & stewardship Activities

Invasive Management & Removal

- Saws, weed whips & attachments
 - **Budget for \$4,000**
- Volunteer tools & replacements
 - **Budget for \$4,000**
- Fencing/flagging materials for native plantings
 - **Budget for \$5,500**

Total = \$13,500

Native Plant Restoration & Education Program

- Purchase of native plants for installation across Township land
 - **Budget for \$5,000**
- Signage for native plant education & identification at preserves
 - **Budget for \$10,000**
- Native seed collection supplies
 - Seed collection/sorting supplies for volunteers and staff
 - **Budget for \$500**

Total = \$16,000

Educational signage & sign replacement

- Educational signage for the Wetland Restoration & Education program at preserves
 - **Budget for \$10,000**
- Signage replacement & general preserve signage
 - **Budget for \$7,000**
- Prescribed fire educational signage at prescribed burn sites
 - **Budget for \$5,000**

Total \$21,000

Total Budget for 2024 \$149,500