



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
May 25, 2017 6:00 p.m.



1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 27, 2017

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Phyllis Vaughn

B. Donna Rose

C. Donna Rose

6. PRESENTATION

A. Public Transit

- Dusty Fancher, Michigan Public Transit Association

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/REVIEW

A. Vacancy

8. COMMISSION COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. June 15, 2017 Meridian Municipal Building Town Hall Room

10. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

DRAFT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 27, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chair Hackbarth, Vice-Chair Potter, Hudson, Kolbasa
and Vagnozzi

ABSENT: Commissioner Deschaine

STAFF: David Hall, Chief of Police
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Hackbarth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Hudson asked to amend the agenda to make an announcement.

Vice-Chair Potter also asked to amend the agenda so he could read a proposed recommendation.

Commissioner Vagnozzi moved to approve the amended agenda and allow Commissioner Hudson and Vice-Chair Potter to speak at Public Remarks.

Seconded by Commissioner Hudson

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Vagnozzi asked that the minutes be amended for the last bullet point item on Page 2 to read as follows:

“A signal pedestrian crossing on Okemos Road at the west exit ramp from I-96 would be difficult”.

Vice-Chair Potter moved to approve the amended minutes of March 23, 2017

Seconded by Commissioner Kolbasa

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

4. Public Remarks

- Vice-Chair Potter read a proposed recommendation regarding improving safety on M-43 (Grand River Avenue). The recommendation was placed on file.
- Leonard Provencher expressed concern with the sidewalk on the south side of East End Drive not connecting to Park Lake Road.

- Peter Holz stated the need for the Township to establish a “Quiet Zone” that would prohibit the use of train horns when approaching and entering crossings. Commissioner Vagnozzi asked Mr. Holz to provide the Commission with the information he had on the topic.
- Ned Jackson spoke in support of the bicycle trails and public awareness of the trails. He thought the Township should address safety issues and signage related to the bicycle trails.
- Lisa Schools stated she was available as a resource on trail signage.
- Donna Rose spoke in support of audible signals being installed when road improvements are done or existing signals are replaced. She also stated people should be allowed to use Redi-Ride to go to the Meijer store in Bath Township.
- Commissioner Hudson announced CATA was having a Casual Commute Day on May 5, 2017. She encouraged Commission members to attend a CATA board meeting held on the third Wednesday of the month.

5. Communications

Chair Hackbarth indicated the Commission had received a resignation from Phyllis Vaughn. The Commission accepted the communications that had been received and placed on file.

5. Presentation/Discussion

Chair Hackbarth welcomed Derek Perry, Assistant Township Manager/Public Works and Engineering Director and LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Director.

Derek Perry

- Master Plan for Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway was updated in 2016
- Pathway development started in 1970
- 70 miles of existing pathways
- 21 miles of proposed pathways
- 33 miles of existing paved shoulders
- 37 miles of proposed paved shoulders
- Pathways are 7 feet in width, 8 feet next to curb
- MDOT requires a width of 10 feet
- Sidewalks 5 foot in width (neighborhoods/subdivisions) are not part of the pathway system
- Update on 2016 projects
 - Towner Road pathway (Marsh to Saginaw)
 - Towner Park to Newton Road trail
 - Phase 1 MSU to Lake Lansing trail
 - Tacoma Hills/Sander Farm trail
 - Jolly Road (Ambassador to Van Atta) paved shoulder
- Dedicated millage (.33 mil) for pathways approximately \$547,000 per year
- Developer pays to install pathway at time of development

- Money from Ingham County Trails and Park Millage for trail, pathway and bridge repairs
- A total of \$878,793 was received from the millage for 7 bridges (\$791,121) and trails/pathways (\$87,672)
- Working with MDOT on repair to the pathway on Grand River Avenue
- One-third of Township Pathway Millage used for maintenance and snow removal
- Two-thirds of Township Pathway Millage used for construction
- A portion of the Pathway Millage could be used for safety issues
- 2017 Projects
 - Mount Hope Road (Okemos to Maumee) pathway
 - Jolly Road (east of Summergate) pathway
 - Crosswalk at Okemos Road/Inter-Urban Trail
 - Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) yield for pedestrian in the crosswalk
 - Feasibility study of the MSU to Lake Lansing trail for MDOT
 - Bridge repairs
- 2018 and Future Projects
 - Trail/Pathway repairs
 - Phase 1 MSU to Lake Lansing trail
 - Towner Road paved shoulder
 - Jolly Road paved shoulder
 - Phase 2 MSU to Lake Lansing (\$1.2 million EST)
 - Phase 3 MSU to Lake Lansing (3.3 million EST)
 - Gap closures in pathway system
 - Way finding/Informational signs

LuAnn Maisner

- Overview of Central Park Master Plan (279 acres)
- Broadwalk connections across wetlands to connect to paved trails
- Trailhead near existing pond on Central Park Drive
- From trailhead 3-12 feet wide promenades
- Promenades connect to Service Center, Municipal Building and new Farmer's Market at the Meridian Mall
- New Farmer's Market will be an open-air pavilion
- Restrooms, performance platform, play/picnic area will be adjacent to the pavillion
- Public/Private partnership with owner of Meridian Mall
- 20 miles of nature trails in the Parks

7. Commission Discussion/Review

A. Pedestrian Safety Improvements

- Vice-Chair Potter gave an overview of the proposed recommendation related to improving the safety along M-43 (Grand River Avenue)
- Request the Township Board begin formal discussion with MDOT
- Commissioner Deschaine as a Trustee could help facilitate the recommendation

Vice Chair Potter moved to approve the recommendation
Seconded by Commissioner Hudson
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

B. Audible Signals

- The Ingham County Road Department did not plan on installing audible signals as part of the improvements to the Okemos/Jolly intersection
 - With a high school, businesses, residential homes and CATA bus service in this area there is a need for audible signals
 - It is less expensive to install the audible signals now rather than later.
- Commissioner Vagnozzi moved the Transportation Commission recommend to the Township Board that the Board support the addition of audible signals at all four corners of the Okemos/Jolly intersection.

Seconded by Commissioner Hudson
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

8. Commission Comments

- Possible joint meeting with the City of East Lansing Transportation Commission
- Redi-Ride as a future agenda topic may need several meetings
- Request for information on the Delhi Township Redi-Ride
- Number of riders when school is in session and when school is out of session

9. Future Meeting Dates

- Consensus of the Commission was to meet the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall Room for the rest of this year, except for December when the meeting will be held on December 14th at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall Room.
- The next meeting date is May 25, 2017

10. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth called for a motion to adjourn the meeting
Vice-Chair Potter moved to adjourn the meeting
Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi
VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

From: phyllis vaughn <vaughnp8@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 8:46 PM
To: Ronald Styka; Chris Hackbarth; Mark Kieselbach; Steve Vagnozzi; Tim Potter; Phil Deschaine; Karla Hudson; hiphomes@outlook.com; Frank Walsh
Subject: Transportation Comm.

Please accept this email as my resignation from the Transportation Comm. I feel the public disrespect shown to me by the Clerk is not worth putting myself in a position for more. One Comm Member greeted me at first meeting saying he expected me to have horns. I hope it was said jokingly. There are many ways I serve this community and do not need to open myself up to be dragged into the politics and name calling. I know who I am and what I believe as truth.

Sincerely

Phyllis Vaughn

"Give your best to the world and the best will come back to you."

"Friends are Angels who lift us to our feet, when our wings forget how to fly"

From: Donna Rose <wild-rose@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 5:12 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Subject: Redi Ride

Dear Transportation Commissioners,

The Transportation Commission was born out of the Redi Ride Committee. We spent six months on that Committee studying data from CATA in order to determine how we might improve the service so it would align better with its original intent. That goal has not yet been achieved. I hope the Transportation Commission will develop a work group of a couple members interested in the task of coming up with some ideas and run them by CATA once developed.

Meridian Township has very limited public transit, so Redi Ride is very important to many for a variety of needs. I am lucky enough to live on the East Lansing route #24 which can take me to connections at Lake Lansing Meijer, or to downtown East Lansing. My concern is for low income individuals, especially citizens who are not eligible for Spectran. Redi Ride is the main transportation service for them in our township. But we all pay for the Redi Ride millage so anyone who wants to ride should be able to book a ride when they want it. Keeping this in mind, I feel allowing people to travel to the Bath Meijer would be an improvement in efficiency. We have a lot of riders residing at Grange Acres who live closer to that Meijer's and thus it would save time and fuel to allow people to use that Meijer if they would prefer. It would also be better to allow Redi Ride to drop off at both sides of the street at boundaries so those who are not eligible to use Spectran might connect to other public transit services easier as needed. Please remember seniors are not eligible for Spectran unless they have a disability, and there are many people living in our township who use Redi Ride who are younger because they cannot afford a car. Plus, the Bath Meijer is a smaller store and may be easier to navigate for older individuals.

All over the country, towns like ours are initiating pilot programs looking to their transportation authority to make innovations to service that offer less expensive alternatives to bus services. Since these services are less expensive the town can offer more extended services to their customers. Since our fixed route bus service is so limited many people only have the Redi Ride service to help them. This means, unlike other communities in the CATA service area, they can only travel between 9 AM until 5 PM. Buses in other communities around us often run from 6 AM until 10:30 PM. We basically have two CATA fixed routes, the #1 up and down Grand River to Meridian Mall, and the #22/23 which run the same route only in different directions.

Delhi is not paying for a Redi Ride millage and during the day they have five Redi Ride buses doing their services at different times. In Meridian we have two and then a third for a short period of the day. We really need to negotiate with CATA to get more service or get them to agree to provide our services in a more economical way. As I have said, we pay three CATA millages. One is for regular CATA service, one is for Rural and Spectran, and then we pay for our Redi Ride millage. No other community is paying for three millages, and yet our service is extremely limited for the price we pay. Part of being a prime community is good public transit! It has almost been two years since residents came to Meridian Township to ask for improvements to the service, not much has changed since.

Also, the Open Meetings Act doesn't limit providing documents at a meeting as long as they are placed in the next packet for public review.

Sincerely,
Donna Rose
Cobblers Drive

From: Donna Rose <wild-rose@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 6:18 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Cc: Ronald Styka; Frank Walsh
Subject: Redi Ride Concerns

For May 2017 packet

Dear Transportation Commissioners,

I am writing to address some of the concerns that were discussed during my six months sitting on the Meridian Redi Ride Committee. You have all been given information regarding our conclusions, so I truly hope you will look that data over so we don't have to recreate the wheel for you all.

It has been almost two years since 40 citizens came to an open session to express their experiences with Redi Ride with Township Trustees, and nothing has really been done to make improvements, except to revamp the "no show" policy.

First, I want to list what is right with Redi Ride:

1. It is a door to door or curb to curb service within Meridian Twp which operates from 9 AM until 5 PM Monday through Saturday for all citizens who reside or who are within the Township boundaries. And it is very popular.
2. The service only costs .60 cents for children, low income individuals, seniors and folks with disabilities and \$1.25 for all other riders.
3. The service was originally advertised to be available with a four hours advanced notice reservation which meant same day service.
4. The service is completely disability accessible.
5. The service fulfills a public transportation need in our Township, especially for riders who do not live near the two bus routes available in our Township, or where there are no safe pathways to reach a fixed route bus.
6. Residents approved a 0.2 millage for the service around 2000.
7. The service is extremely popular with people who cannot drive or afford a vehicle and school age children.
8. CATA provides call takers for reservations, schedulers, and supervisory staff, along with administration costs related to the service and training to operators. They also maintain the vehicles. These elements are significant when operating such a program.

Issues which require attention:

1. The Redi Ride Committee studied a lot of data and discovered that the program's capacity was the main issue for the program. Riders could not always get the rides they needed and after 2 PM the service becomes like a school bus hauling kids home from school who aren't eligible to use the school bus or who have been removed from using the school bus.
2. The service is costly the way it is provided. The operators/drivers of Redi Ride are great people, but we have been quoted the cost of each ride is somewhere between \$16 to \$22. The service uses mini buses which are costly to fuel, run and maintain. You would think capacity would be greater using these vehicles because they can hold more passengers, however, the time element and the location of each rider means there large size doesn't help much in many circumstances.
3. We were told by CATA there are two buses on the road all day and one extra bus during the middle of the day. But the buses can't usually fill up because of the nature of the service. Sometimes riders are spaced geographically far apart

which takes more time to get from rider to rider, and people near each other geographically are not necessarily going in the same direction. This translates into time and capacity issues, not allowing the buses used to do more pickups.

4. Time and capacity issues reduce the number of seats available so customers complain they cannot always get the rides they need, or the rides just aren't available at all. So it is frequently required to call 5-7 days in advance to schedule a ride, especially during the school year. Sometimes there still isn't a ride available. Since public transit fixed route service in our township is limited we need to make sure people can get where they need to go.

5. Sometimes if call-takers look through rides, instead of just going by the computer scheduling system, they can find rides for individual, but riders must be savvy about asking schedulers to do this. And some call-takers are experts at scheduling and some cannot do it. Some of us are better at knowing who these experts are and grateful when they get our call to schedule. They go the extra mile for customers.

6. School children use the two buses available in the afternoon, so many riders say they have learned not to even ask for a ride from 2 PM until the program is over each day because not many other rides are available. This makes it extremely difficult for those who are not eligible to ride Spectran, which according to Andrew from CATA is 70% of the Redi Ride ridership. Only 30% of passengers, according to Andrew, have a disability and would be eligible to use Spectran.

7. The service time for Redi Ride is limited. Redi Ride fulfills many needs because there are no other fixed route options like in Lansing and East Lansing. However, if you take Redi Ride to use a fixed route bus outside of our Township, you must be back by 4:30 PM to transfer from your bus to a prescheduled trip on Redi Ride.

8. If you have difficulty with a Redi Ride on a Saturday not arriving or picking you up, there has historically been no supervisor available to fix the problem. Some riders have experienced problems on Saturdays when staff is limited 9. Service hours limit times people may have appointments or other obligations.

Recommendations:

Options:

A. Negotiate with CATA to provide more service to our program at no additional charge, as Delhi Township has done, because we have limited fixed route coverage in our Township.

B. Ask for an increase in the Redi Ride millage for 2018. There has been no increase since the program's inception.

C. Require an age limit on school children of 12 years old to ride alone without someone 18 or older. I have experienced children as young as four and it is a huge liability for CATA and our community.

D. Ask CATA to contract with another provider which can offer smaller vehicles for less money and longer hours due to the savings.

E. On the next millage remove CATA's name, as the county has done, so we could use some of the funds to try out a pilot or supplemental program to CATA's, like a voucher or other program when CATA's service isn't available. We could ask for a raise in the millage and use that extra money to provide such a service.

F. Ask for a higher millage, remove CATA's name like the County did and use part of the funds to provide separate service for school children, and contract our own Redi Ride service. By accepting bids where CATA could bid as well.

G. The Meridian Township DDA recaptures some CATA funding. Since fixed route service is so limited in our Township, perhaps they could be convinced to donate some of these funds to help improve Redi Ride. I believe this would be a fair request because it increases patrons at local businesses served by the DDA.

I think the easiest of all these options I have listed, is to negotiate with CATA to offer at least 9AM to 9PM service and allow us to have more coverage during the day. We pay more money to CATA than any other locality and should be getting more equivalent fixed route service than what we are offered now. Redi Ride was meant to help with the gaps in service our township experiences. Spectran eligible riders do have the option of riding Spectran, but the cost difference is significant. It is \$2.50 per ride using Spectran (round trip \$5), and \$.60 using Redi Ride. I prefer to use the cheaper system and usually use the fixed route bus whenever possible, but it is extremely limited in our township. We must consider the 70% of Redi Ride passengers who are not eligible to use Spectran. We also need to consider where our fixed route travels in terms of being near low income housing and schools. Perhaps if we analyzed our limited fixed route services and rerouted them some of the pressure might be able to be removed from Redi Ride, reducing capacity issues. As a rider I feel our community has a good case for requesting increased Redi Ride service. If we don't do this we need to figure out other ways to provide accessible public transportation to our residents. If we really hope to be a "prime"

community, it seems we should be striving to give our citizens the best opportunities we can by realizing not everyone drives or can own an automobile. We must also be devoted to the concept of green transportation.

Sincerely,
Donna Rose
6207 Cobblers Drive
East Lansing, MI 48823
517-489-2233

Mark Kieselbach

From: Donna Rose <wild-rose@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 6:37 PM
To: Ronald Styka
Cc: Frank Walsh; Brenda Henige; 'Karla Hudson'; Mark Kieselbach; Board
Subject: Transportation Commission Vacancy

Dear Supervisor Styka,

I am writing to recommend Brenda Henige to the Meridian Township Transportation Commission. She has submitted her application to the Township. Brenda is blind and a user of public transit. She is also interested in public pathways. She has very good analytical skills which I believe are necessary to serve on this Commission. She would like to help create improvements to Redi Ride which will perhaps extend the hours and make more rides available. She works and can only use Redi Ride on Saturdays, if she can secure a ride due to its popularity. She has no ties to CATA, except as a rider. She is also empathetic to the needs of others, not just her own. She is quite friendly and works well with others. I feel she would be an excellent fit for the Transportation Commission because she can see the big picture about how things are connected and she must rely on public transit.

On a side note, I have been very happy with the current configuration of members on this Commission. They are taking their duties very seriously. I do feel another woman member who is a rider to replace Phyllis would be nice. Currently Karla Hudson is the only woman commissioner.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Donna Rose
Cobblers Drive

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

Ronald J. Styka
Brett Dreyfus
Julie Brixie
Frank L. Walsh

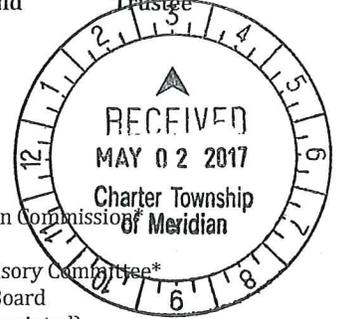
Supervisor
Clerk
Treasurer
Manager



Phil Deschaine
Patricia Herring Jackson
Dan Opsommer
Kathy Ann Sundland

Trustee
Trustee
Trustee
Trustee

APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC SERVICE



I am interested in service on one or more of the following public bodies as checked below:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assessing Board of Review* | <input type="checkbox"/> Elected Officials Compensation Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Water and Light Representative* | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brownfield Redevelopment Authority* | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Lansing Watershed Advisory Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building and/or Fire Board of Appeals and Building Hearing Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Preservation Advisory Board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Area Transportation Authority (C.A.T.A.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Park Commission (elected/appointed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications Commission* | <input type="checkbox"/> Pension Trustees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Resources Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corridor Improvement Authority* | <input type="checkbox"/> Township Board (elected/appointed) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown Development Authority* | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation Commission* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East Lansing-Meridian Water & Sewer Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Appeals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development Corporation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

(*Special conditions restrict eligibility for appointment)

Indicate areas not included above which may warrant special attention or study that are of interest to you:

Summarize your reasons for applying for this type of public service:

Describe education, experience or training which will assist you if appointed. (Attach resume if available)

Name: Brenda Henige

Occupation: Loan Funds Manager Place of Employment: United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan

Home Address: 6247 Endenhall Way, Apt. 11, East Lansing MI 48823

Phone: (days) (517) 231-3194 (cell) (evenings) _____ E-mail brenda.henige@gmail.com

Signature _____ Date May 2, 2017

Other than the Downtown Development Authority Board and the Economic Development Corporation, persons appointed to Meridian Township boards and commissions must be a resident and elector (if of voting age) of the Township during the term of office. Excessive absences may be cause for review of appointment.

(PLEASE USE BACK IF NEEDED)

The policy for appointment of candidates to the various public service positions is based on the following criteria: desire to serve, experience, expertise, availability of time to serve, and maintenance of equitable geographic representation. In most instances it will be desirable to develop further information through a personal interview. This application will be retained in township files for two years. Please return this form to the Office of the Clerk, Charter Township of Meridian.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Date Received	<u>5.2.17</u>	Distro: <u>RS FW</u>	Application # <u>TC 1701</u>
Registered Voter:	<u>(Y)/N</u>	<u>MK</u>	
Date Appointed:		<u>BY MEMBERS</u>	

Revised: April 24, 2017



6247 Endenhall Way, Apt 11
East Lansing, MI 48823
Cell: (517) 231-3194
Email: brenda.henige@gmail.com

May 2, 2017

Charter Township of Meridian
Re: Serving on the Meridian Transportation Commission

Dear Meridian Township Officials,

I recently learned about the opening on the Meridian Transportation Commission and am requesting consideration to fill the vacancy. Please accept this letter of interest in lieu of the Application for Public Service form which is not accessible to a screen reader (speech). I moved to Meridian Township in July 2014 (I reside at Castle Pointe Apartment Homes) and am a regular user of CATA and Spec-Tran, having used Meridian Redi-Ride when possible. Also, I walk around the area, using available sidewalks and paths. Recently, I've been utilizing Uber to travel around the community as other options are often unavailable. The opportunity to assist in reviewing current conditions and in making recommendations to the Board toward improvements in our local motorized and non-motorized infrastructure is of great interest to me. Further, I would like to help to ensure that Meridian Township offers safe, efficient paths, sidewalks, bike lanes, and traffic conditions, as well as providing realistic, useful public and private transportation modes to citizens and visitors of all ages. I would also like to play a role in the development of an environment that will encourage residents and others to spend their time and money within Meridian Township, potentially offering greater transportation and walkability. I understand the purpose of the Commission, the required time commitment, and am available to serve in this capacity.

You will see on the attached resume that I have been working as the Loan Funds Manager for a local nonprofit organization, UCP of Michigan, since 2015. I moved to the Lansing area seeking more viable transportation options and increased walkability. Prior to moving here, I served on the Livingston County Transportation Coalition as a Public Transit Advocate, from 2001 to 2006, where I worked to improve transportation within Livingston County. Some tasks included development of ideas, assisting with writing a feasibility study for residents, and giving personal input and my recommendations regarding the necessary addition of buses, bus drivers, and operation hours for the current bus system. Team efforts aided and led to expanding the Livingston Essential Transportation Service (LETS) bus system service hours and enhanced the quality of service. Over the years, I have served as an active member of various advisory boards and committees within employment and voluntary settings. Positions have required me to learn and interpret information and to receive comments and concerns from the public. My educational background includes completing college degrees in human services and business administration, and experience in program coordination, advocacy, and community relations. Being legally blind my whole life, I have relied on transportation systems and walkable areas to travel around my community.

Skills that I would offer include problem resolution, creativity, attention to detail, and professional judgment, along with experience in reviewing information and guidelines, and in making recommendations. Feel free to contact me to discuss the Commission and to advise me on the application process. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda Henige

BRENDA HENIGE

Cell: (517) 231-3194
Email: brenda.henige@gmail.com

6247 Endenhall Way Apt. 11
East Lansing, MI 48823

Summary of Qualifications

- Over ten years' experience within human services settings including courts, veterans services, and disability services
- Five years' oversight of financial funds, making eligibility determinations, arranging for disbursement, and tracking of use within veterans benefits and loan funds programs
- Five years' combined supervision of AmeriCorps VISTA member, support staff member, and part-time reader assistants within two positions
- Providing direct services to a broad population in various roles, while coordinating programs, case management, and advocacy
- Educational background in human services, program development, and business administration
- Representing organizations by serving on committees and workgroups within specialty areas
- Promotion of programs through creating materials, presenting at events, and holding vendor tables
- Collaboration with community organizations and networking to meet unified goals while maintaining community partnerships

Professional Experience

United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan - East Lansing, Michigan

April 2015 to Present

Loan Funds Manager

- Manage all activities of the two statewide financial loan programs, the Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund and the Michigan Employment Loan Fund
- Oversee 50 outstanding loans with a current total loan balance of \$200,000 and an average loan amount of \$4,000
- Provide technical assistance to applicants and professionals throughout the financial loan fund application process
- Review applications to ensure guidelines are met, advise applicants, and make decisions based on policy criteria
- Communicate with partner financial institution and loan committee during loan process and when loan issues require resolution
- Collect data, compile reports, meet grant and contract requirements, and evaluate policy
- Conduct trainings and participate in twelve outreach events per year within the state
- Plan and develop ramp building and financial education programs
- Supervise staff in loan fund and financial education areas
- Lead Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund advisory council and represent the agency within assistive technology focused workgroups
- Write blog articles and promotional documents

Livingston County Veterans Services - Howell, Michigan
Veterans Benefits Counselor

March 2009 - May 2012

BRENDA HENIGE

Cell: (517) 231-3194
Email: brenda.henige@gmail.com

6247 Endenhall Way Apt. 11
East Lansing, MI 48823

- Advised veterans and their families on benefits eligibility through interviewing, screening, and reviewing financial, medical, legal, and service records
- Prepared Veterans Affairs claims and monitored their progress
- Assessed decisions and calculated financial awards to ensure accuracy
- Resolved issues and authored appeals
- Referred clients to other programs and services
- Considered applications for emergency financial assistance and granted amounts to \$300 – as Assistant Authorized Agent of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund
- Reviewed and approved emergency financial assistance to \$600 – as County Relief Agent for the Livingston County Relief Fund
- Served as liaison between regional Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, Vet Centers, universities, and local agencies, to coordinate homelessness assistance, health care services and educational assistance
- Created educational handouts and presented on programs

Livingston County Community Corrections - Howell, Michigan

August 2005 - March 2009

Community Corrections Assistant

- Provided supervision, resources, and coordination of programs to defendants in Livingston County
- Supervised offenders by ensuring compliance with Community Corrections programs per their court order and communicating information to court personnel
- Utilized court management information systems to maintain court records related to eligibility and compliance

Education and Training

Hadley Institute, Winnetka, Illinois, 1997 to 2017

Business, Leadership, and Management coursework (continuing education credits)

Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan, 2004

Associate in Business: Business Administration

Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan, 1993

Bachelor of Science: Human Resource Development

Specialization: Human Services

Computer Skills

- MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, Outlook, specialized records systems and databases

Community Involvement

- Secretary and Alternate Delegate, Capital Area Chapter of Michigan Council of the Blind

Mark Kieselbach

8.

From: Steve Vagnozzi <svagnozzi@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 04, 2017 2:47 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Cc: Chris Hackbarth
Subject: Redi Ride Letter of Intent
Attachments: 170321 Revised Minutes as Amended.pdf - Adobe Acrobat.pdf

I'm requesting that you send the document referenced in the highlighted section of the attached Township Board Minutes to transportation commission members.

Thanks!

Steve Vagnozzi
517-349-4809

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP BOARD REGULAR MEETING – **REVISED, AS AMENDED 5.2.2017**
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017 **6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Brixie, Trustees Deschaine, Jackson, Opsommer
ABSENT: Trustee Sundland
STAFF: Township Manager Frank Walsh, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Public Works and Engineering Derek Perry, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Police Chief David Hall, Fire Chief Fred Cowper, Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner, Director of Information Technology Stephen Gebes, Finance Director Miriam Mattison, Communications Director Deborah Guthrie, Human Resources Director Joyce Marx, Associate Planner/Economic Development Coordinator Ben Motil

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Supervisor Styka called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INTRODUCTIONS
Supervisor Styka led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. ROLL CALL
The Clerk called the roll of the Board.
4. PRESENTATION (None)
5. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
Supervisor Styka opened Public Remarks.

R_x Harrington, 825 Piper Road, Haslett, believed the Board has not solved the problems of Meridian Township's Redi-Ride system. He noted the letter of intent states Redi-Ride was established to provide transportation for elderly people to attend doctor appointments, trips to pharmacies, grocery shopping, etc. Mr. Harrington stated the goal of Redi-Ride was to fill gaps in the Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) system. He added the letter of intent also indicated Meridian Township had adequate school transportation systems, and Redi-Ride would not be used to transport students to and from school. Mr. Harrington remarked students from two school systems make up approximately 30% of the rides, namely Okemos and St. Marthas. He suggested the Board pass a resolution which prevents students from using Redi-Ride, effectively returning the service to its original intent.

Leonard Provencher, 4824 Buena Parkway, Haslett, pointed out the Treasurer's quarterly report shows \$4.8 million going to CATA from Meridian Township. He voiced his sentiment that the Police and Fire millage to be placed on the August, 2017 ballot should be separated into two questions, one dealing with the unfunded pension liability and the other addressing the Police and Fire staffing needs and equipment. Mr. Provencher suggested a provision be placed in the sale of Meridian Township's School Street property to Haslett Public Schools for \$1.00 so the school system cannot flip it for a profit. He believed the Local Officials Compensation Commission to be an "inflationary loop" in that Board approval of salary increases for staff sets the policy for compensation of elected officials throughout the future. Mr. Provencher spoke in support of the Parks & Recreation grant applications.

Meridian Transportation Commission (MTC)

2017 Meeting Dates:

February 23, 2017	Community Room-Central Fire Station
March 23, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
April 27, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
May 25, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
June 15, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
July 20, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
August 24, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
October 26, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
November 16, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building
December 14, 2017	Town Hall Room-Municipal Building

All meetings will start at 6:00 p.m.

Revised: May 5, 2017