



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Location: Administrative Conference Room, Meridian Municipal Building
Okemos, MI 48864

DATE: January 15, 2019

PRESENT: Chair Michael McDonald; Commissioner Amanda Lick; Commissioner Mark Stephen

EXCUSED: Commissioner Annika Schaetzl

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McDonald called the regular meeting to order at 8:03pm.

2. PRESENTATIONS

None

3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Lick moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS WRITTEN. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 11, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lick moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Items to/from the Public

1. From: Jane Rose, Meridian Historical Village Education Director; RE: An award for the Village Chapel

B. Commission Information

1. Press Releases:

a. Meridian Historical Village Wins 2018 Best Business for Wedding Venues

b. Township Christmas Tree Disposal Begins December 26th

- c. Meridian Township Park Commission Looks to Fill Vacancy – Commissioner Wisinski Elected by Board to Township Trustee
- 2. Support the Harris Nature Center on your next big adventure! Mackinac Bridge Tower Adventure Auction
- C. Staff Inquiries/Response
None

Commissioner Stephens moved TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Seconded by Commissioner Lick.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Status of Farmers' Market Project
- B. Culvers Fundraiser - January 28, 5-8pm
- C. Kiwanis Duck Race Fund Raiser for 2019 Celebrate Meridian
- D. Kickoff meeting for HNC Pavilion and Restroom Project was held with Viridis Design Group
- E. Progress meeting with Wolverine Engineering – Central Park Improvements
- F. 2019 Projects:
 - 1. Farmers Market
 - 2. Bridge and Restroom in Village
 - 3. Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector
 - 4. Large dog Park
 - 5. Ribbon Cutting small dog park
 - 6. Pavilion and restroom in Historical Village
 - 7. New Park sign design

8. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Property Donation - Refer for Section 61 Review, Parcel #33-02-02-09-201-013 (Sleepy Hollow)

The owners of parcel #33-02-02-09-201-013 has offered to donate their 2-acre parcel to the Park Commission for park purposes. This wooded wetland area is located adjacent to Brattin Woods Park and can serve as pedestrian access into the park from Sleepy Hollow subdivision as well as more direct pedestrian access to Newton Road Park on Lake Lansing Road. A Phase I Environmental study is underway currently. This land donation requires a Planning Commission Section 61 Review to approve the land with regards to character, size and extent.

Commissioner Stephens moved TO FORWARD THE PROPERTY DONATION OFFER OF PARCEL #33-02-02-09-201-013 TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR SECTION 61 REVIEW. Seconded by Commissioner Lick.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 2019 Projects

1. Farmers' Market Relocation Project – Construction and Grand Opening
2. Central Meridian Regional Trail connector – Construction and Ribbon Cutting
3. Footbridge and restroom in Historical Village – Construction and Ribbon Cutting
4. Large and Small Dog Park – Construction and Ribbon Cutting
5. Pavilion and Restroom at Harris Nature Center - Construction and Ribbon Cutting
6. Expand Parking lot at North Meridian Road Park

B. Appointments

The Commission discussed visiting the board meetings for the Friends of Historic Meridian, Nokomis Learning Center and Harris Nature Center Foundation to talk about goals and objectives. Staff will provide dates of future meetings in 2019.

C. MParks Conference Sessions

The MParks Conference is scheduled in Kalamazoo on January 29-February 1, 2019 and many of the Commissioners are registered to attend. The draft session schedule is included in the Commissioners' packet. Be sure to attend the Thursday Night Awards Banquet. Director Maisner heard it will be very special!

D. Park Commission Vacancy

Following Commissioner Wisinski's appointment to the Township Board, the Commission must work toward identifying a replacement. A total of three applications have been received in the Clerk's office already. A press release announcing the vacancy was sent to the media on Friday with a deadline of late January.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Commissioner Comments

None

B. Event Calendar:

1. Meridian Skates; Friday, January 25, 8:3-9:50 pm; Suburban Ice East Lansing
2. Winter Wonderland; Saturday, January 26, 10 am – 3 pm, Harris Nature Center
3. Polar Bear 5K Run/Walk; Sunday, January 27, 10 am race time, Central Park
4. Pavilion Ribbon Cutting - North Meridian Road Park; Saturday, February 2, 6 pm
5. Moonlight Sledding; Saturday, February, 6-9 pm, North Meridian Road Park
6. Meridian Skates; Sunday, February 3, 5-6:20 pm; Suburban Ice East Lansing
7. Moonlight Ski and Shoe; Saturday, February 9, 6-9 pm; Harris Nature Center
8. Chinese New Year Celebration; Sunday, February 10, 1-3 pm; Meridian Mall
9. Meridian Ice Fishing Derby; Saturday, February 16, 9 am – 12 Noon, Central Park South Pond

C. Next Park Commission Meeting – Tuesday, February 12, 6 pm Work Session; 7 pm Regular Meeting (televised); Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building

12. CLOSED SESSION

None

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McDonald adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

14. NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 12, 2019**, in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, with the work session at 6 pm and televised regular meeting at 7 pm.

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.