

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
Meridian Municipal Building – Town Hall Room  
February 3, 2016 - APPROVED**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Chair McConnell, Vice-Chair Schools, Commissioners Jackson, Sarver and Kielbaso

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Dickmann

**STAFF:** Harmony Gmazel, AICP, Associate Planner

**OTHERS:** None

**1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair McConnell called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Approved by consent without objection.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY 6, 2016 WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Moved by Kielbaso, seconded by Jackson; **APPROVED** 6-0.

**4. PUBLIC REMARKS**

None

**5. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Attended the joint board meeting in January. Increased communication between policy boards is a priority.

**6. Staff Report**

H. Gmazel reported that the draft habitat map is being developed.

**7. Commission Liaison/Workgroup Reports**

**Energy Team:** J. Sarver reported on January's Energy Team meeting. They are exploring the development of a "Climate Action Plan". Also discussed energy efficiency improvements to municipal buildings. The Township is interested in sponsoring solar panels at Burcham Road Park through the purchase of shares.

**8. GREEN THEME FOR FEBRUARY:** Christine Spitzley, AICP, the chief environmental planner at the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, presented the new *Tri-County Water Policies and Programs Guide*.

9. **REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-17**

- a. Bylaws: Edits are underway.
- b. Vacancies: National Honor Society members may be interested.
- c. Wayfinding: Begin a conversation with Friends of Meridian Pathways, the branding workgroup, Celebrate Meridian etc. and otherwise start engaging with private and public groups to identify needs for wayfinding improvements. Utilize existing maps. A smart phone app is a possibility. It's important to assess gaps in signage first.

10. **REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION RULES OF PROCEDURE AND ZONING ORDINANCE CHAPTER TWO**

Edits to the proposed *Rules* and *Ordinance* were discussed.

11. **2016 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARDS KICKOFF**

Nominations are being accepted for the 2016 ESAs.

12. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

Citizen Leonard Provencher commented that a commission packet folder should be provided at the meeting, and that the packet be posted online.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Schools to adjourn. **SUPPORTED** by Commissioner Kielbaso. Approved 6-0. The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.