



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Administrative Conference Room

Date, Time April 10, 2018; 7 pm

PRESENT: Chair, Michael McDonald; Vice Chair Amanda Lick; Commissioner Annika Schaetzl;
Commissioner Mark Stephens; Commissioner Courtney Wisinski

ABSENT: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Department Director

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McDonald called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

2. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Schaetzl moved **TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Commissioner Wisinski.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. March 13, 2018 Regular Minutes
- B. March 13, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Schaetzl moved **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 13, 2018 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED**. Seconded by Commissioner Lick.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Items to/from the Public

- 1. From: Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office; RE: Controlled Prescribed Burn Notice Snell Towar Recreation Center/Towar Gardens area
- 2. From: Teresa DeLisle Morgan; RE: Eastgate Park Pump Track
- 3. From: Cecelia Kramer, President Forest Hills Homeowners Association, RE: issues in Forest Hills Natural Area Park

B. Commission Information

None

Minutes – Park Commission

April 10, 2018

Page 2 of 4

C. Staff Inquiries/Response

1. From: Kelsey Dillon, RE: Stewardship Coordinator Report for March 8, 2018 Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting

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

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Full-time Matt Foreman, Larry Bobb. Don Cuson, Ben McCann Keith Hewitt, Josh Cannon (6) (one off with a shoulder injury until August)
- Summer seasonals (6) May – August
- MDOT Youth Mentoring Development Program workers (5) mid-June-August
- Park Ranger
- Two interns
- Spring Park Work – Lead Worker Matt Foreman conducted an evaluation of all the parks and developed a list of items that require attention by staff or volunteers for action this spring and summer.
- Boundary Confirmation and markers have been ordered for Ottawa Hills Park and Forest Hills Park.
- Park trail sign progress – Kati Adams and Matt Foreman have been working on installation of trailhead signs and directional markers. The following parks have been completed: Hartrick, Brattin Woods, North Meridian Road Park, Forest Hills Park (more work to be done at western entrance from Arrowtree Apartments), and Ted Black Woods Park. In conjunction with the new signage program, a number of trail maintenance days are being planned for Saturday mornings to spread crushed limestone.
- Towner Road Park Progress – A meeting is planned for next week with the contractor to review the updated work schedule for the project.
- North Meridian Road Park Pavilion- installation is set to begin next week.
- RFP Central Park Improvements – RFP's for design and engineering were released today for the Central Park Regional Trail Connector and Gateway Footbridge/Restroom project. A bid opening is scheduled for May 1, 2018.
- Celebrate Meridian – Planning continues with live music, beer and wine tent, food truck rally, children's game area, car show, pet adoption, and Fireworks. Saturday, June 30 11am-11pm. Need Volunteers!!
- Hillbrook Vandalism – Tennis and Pickleball courts
- Pump Track Volunteers – Michigan Mountain Biking Association Spring 2010
- Wonch Park warning siren
- Cottage Inn Pizza – mural and \$300 for Friends of Historic Meridian
- Senior Health and Fitness Day Wonch Park May 30; 11-1pm
- Chief Hall Retirement June 29th – appreciate the support the Police Department has provided over the years.

7. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Stephens outlined the 2018 salmon in the classroom release programs with the schools at Ferguson Park and Legg Park.

Minutes – Park Commission

April 10, 2018

Page 3 of 4

8. CLOSED SESSION – FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Commissioner Stephens, moved, **TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION ITEM.** Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

Roll Call:

AYES: Vice Chair Amanda Lick; Commissioner Annika Schaetzl; Commissioner Mark Stephens;
Commissioner Courtney Wisinski; Chair Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

The Commission entered into closed session at 7:45pm.

Commissioner Stephens moved, **TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.** Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

Roll Call:

AYES: Vice Chair Amanda Lick; Commissioner Annika Schaetzl; Commissioner Mark Stephens;
Commissioner Courtney Wisinski; Chair Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

The Commission returned to open session at 8:25 pm.

9. ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Lick moved to support such action as discussed **DURING THE CLOSED SESSION.** Seconded by Commission Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

A. Next Park Commission Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2018

B. April Family Fun Events Include:

- Sunday, April 15; Explore Nature Open House, Harris Nature Center, Noon-4pm
- Saturday, April 21; Meridian Farmers' Market, JC Penney Wing, Meridian Mall, 10 am-2 pm and then Spring Farmers Market begins Saturday, May 5, Central Park Pavilion from 10 am – 2 pm
- Saturday, April 21; Song Bird Nest Box Workshop, Harris Nature Center, at 2 pm (nest boxes to take home: \$12 for a robin shelf or \$20 for a bluebird/song bird nest box)
- Sunday, April 22; Earth Day Walkabout, Harris Nature Center, 2 pm, \$3/person or \$7/family
- Friday, April 27; Howl at the Moon, Harris Nature Center, at 8:30 pm, \$3/person
- Sunday, April 29; Bird Watching in Our Parks; Hartrick Park, at 8 am

C. May Family Fun Events Include:

- Saturday, May 5; Native Plants Day and Sale, Harris Nature Center from 9 am-1 pm
- Saturday, May 5; Spring Farmers Market Opening Day, Central Park Pavilion, 8 am–2 pm
- Sunday, May 6; Bird Watching in Our Parks, meet at Harris Nature Center and will also

Minutes – Park Commission

April 10, 2018

Page 4 of 4

- visit Legg Park, at 8 am
- Sunday, May 6; Wildflower Walkabout, Harris Nature Center, at 3 pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Stephens moved, **TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING**. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

13. NEXT MEETINGS:

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 8, 2018** in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI. Work Session at 6 pm and Regular Meeting at 7 pm.