

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
Meridian Municipal Building
February 4, 2015 - APPROVED**

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chair McConnell and Commissioners Searl, Jackson, Schools, Scherbarth, Sarver, and Kielbaso

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Richard F. Brown, Jr., AICP, CBSP Associate Planner

OTHERS: Planning Commissioner John Scott-Craig, Greater Lansing Housing Coalition Director Julie Powers, and Recycling Coordinator LeRoy Harvey

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

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Jackson to approve the agenda. Supported by Commissioner Kielbaso. Approved 7-0.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY 7, 2015 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Jackson to approve the minutes as corrected during the Work Session. Supported by Commissioner Schools. Approved 7-0.

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

None

5. GREEN THEMES PRESENTATION BY JULIE POWERS, DIRECTOR OF THE GREATER LANSING HOUSING COALITION ENTITLED: "HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT"

Planning should be aspirational was the underlying theme of the presentation. Other topics included transit-oriented development, putting density in the right places, changing demographics, continuing care, senior housing that is positioned in relationship to amenities.

7. CHAIR'S REPORT

No report.

8. COMMUNICATIONS/STAFF REPORT

Associate Planner Brown summarized the following:

- Accepting Environmental Stewardship Award nominations until 3/1/15. One nomination to date.
- Harmony Gmazel will be speaking in March.
- Staff provided a copy of the recycling handout prepared by Granger – participation is now up to 64 percent of single-family households.

9. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. **Meridian Leadership Group presentation:** brief discussion about Friday morning's event. Commissioners McConnell, Jackson, and Schools plan to attend, along with staff.

10. **STUDY GROUPS/LIAISON REPORTS**

- a. **Land Preservation:** No report.
- b. **Energy Team:** Commissioner Sarver noted Consumers Energy's presentation to the Township Board on Solar Ready Communities.
- c. **Street Tree Replacement:** Commissioner Scherbarth and staff updated the Commission. Initial interest from Banyon Park subdivision.
- d. **Parks:** Commissioner Searl summarized what took place at the most recent Park Commission meeting, including 150 deer taken during the Deer Management Program; looking into smaller dog parks versus a single large one; and an additional deer season will be held in January and February.

11. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

None.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Kielbaso to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Supported by Commissioner Searl. Approved 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.