



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
Land Preservation Advisory Board
Wednesday, February 10, 2016
Meridian Service Center
6 pm

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approve Agenda
3. Public Remarks
4. Approve Minutes (blue)
 - a. January 13, 2016
5. Communications (tan)
6. Old Business
7. New Business (orchid)
 - a. Contribution to The Stewardship Network
 - b. Prescribed burn at Davis/Foster Land Preserve
8. Land Management Report (green)
9. Other (pink)
10. Public Comment
11. Announcements
12. Closed Session (separate envelope)
13. Adjournment

Land Preservation Advisory Board
February 10 2016

4. MINUTES

- a. January 13, 2016

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016
6 PM – SERVICE CENTER

Members Present: Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, Frank Hatfield, James Kielbaso, Jon Mayes, Margo Smith

Members Absent: Yu Man Lee, Mark Stephens

Staff: Jane Greenway, Parks and Land Management Coordinator; Kelsey Dillion, Land Stewardship Assistant; Robin Faust, Administrative Assistant II

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Kielbaso called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. Approve Agenda

BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE MOVED, BOARD MEMBER SMITH SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA. Voice vote. Motion passed.

• Public Remarks

None

4. Approve Minutes

a. December 9, 2015 – BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE MOVED, BOARD MEMBER HATFIELD SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 9 2015 MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

5. Communications

- Advisory Board Member List Updated
- 2016 Board Meeting Calendar
- Press Release: Meridian Land Preserve 7 Local Scouts Prepare Their Defense Against Deer
- 12-15-15 update from Land Stewardship Assistant Dillon

BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE MOVED, BOARD MEMBER MAYES SECONDED, TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Voice vote. Motion passed.

When asked the status of the joint meeting between the Environmental Commission, Land Preservation Advisory Board and Park Commission, Chair Kielbaso replied Associate Planner Harmony Gmazel is currently working on a map of the Township illustrating all the upland, wetlands, locations of parks and land preserves, development areas, etc. He would like to see this project completed before setting the meeting and is looking toward late spring.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Chair Kielbaso opened the floor to nominations.

BOARD MEMBER SMITH MOVED TO NOMINATE JAMES KIELBASO AS CHAIR FOR 2016. BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE SECONDED AND ADDED THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO ALSO INCLUDE NOMINATION OF JON MAYES AS VICE CHAIR.

James Kielbaso accepted the Chair nomination and Jon Mayes accepted the Vice Chair nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair Kielbaso closed the floor to nominations.

Roll Call:

AYES: Margo Smith, Roland Harmes, Julie Brixie, Jon Mayes, Frank Hatfield, James Kielbaso

NAYES: None

Motion passed.

8. Land Management Report

- a. 2016 Updated Management Plan – Stewardship Assistant Dillon summarized the monthly accomplishments and updates from December 2015 to present
- b. Reviewed the Land Preservation Management Plan for 2016
- c. Reviewed the proposed management activities and opinion on costs chart for 2016
 - Under #6, Stewardship Plans/Invasive Species Assessment, remove the \$8,000 for Southwest Land Preserve

- Change all titles Northwest Land Preserve to Towar Woods
 - Invasive Species Management activities can be contracted out
 - d. Signage
 - Suggested speaking with Frank Teleweski at Beal Gardens about signs, sign locations/placement to avoid them being stolen, costs, etc.
 - May want to include prohibiting drones as well as flying of model airplanes; may also need to update the Ordinance to address drones on land preserves
 - Suggest being specific on dog feces removal signs
 - Would like to see text for all signs before ordering
 - e. Educational materials
 - Will be working with HOM-TV staff on the production of videos to help get youth more involved in land stewardship activities; suggested sending videos to teachers
 - f. Reviewed the Southwest Meridian Upland Management Plan
 - g. Land Preservation Program page from the 2016 Parks and Recreation Family Fun Guide
 - h. Leslie Kuhn has mentioned attending the February LPAB meeting to discuss funding for the Mid-Michigan Stewardship Network
9. Other (pink)
- a. Joint Meeting with Boards and Commissions; January 12, 2016, 6 pm, Meridian Township Hall

Chair Kielbaso reported he attended the meeting along with Board Member Mayes and new Member Lee. He presented the report in the meeting packet and stated it was a good meeting. There was a discussion on the Township Survey results and land preservation was one of the questions and suggested reviewing the survey results on the website.
 - b. Property Evaluation Criteria Form

Board Member Hatfield reported the current form that uses numbers, which create a subjective rather than an appropriate ranking. He drafted a new form which lists headings quoted from the Township Ordinance.

Discussion:

 - Can check off a feature and/or offer a comment
 - The new form does not score a property
 - Current form is very frustrating
 - If change forms, what is most effective
 - Since there may be only one or two more purchases to cover the Millage amount, do we want to change the screening form
 - Maybe a simple ranking would be great

- The new form illustrates main points used by appraisers, the other form was too difficult
- Use the current form but attached a recommendation section that is on the new form
- A lot of volunteer hours were spent creating the current form and question not using it
- Suggest using both for the next property evaluation to see how they work side by side

10. Public Comment

None

11. Announcements

- a. LPAB Meeting; February 10, 2016, 6 pm, Meridian Service Center
- b. Coordinator Greenway reported speaking on WKAR radio about the deer management program and noted that Ann Arbor is using sharp shooters

12. Closed Session

BOARD MEMBER MAYES MOVED, BOARD MEMBER SMITH SECONDED, TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION ISSUE.

Roll Call:

AYES: Frank Hatfield, Jon Mayes, Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, Margo Smith, James Kielbaso

NAYS: None

The Land Preservation Advisory Board entered closed session at 7:55 pm.

BOARD MEMBER MAYES, BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE SECONDED, TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

Roll Call:

AYES: Frank Hatfield, Jon Mayes, Julie Brixie, Roland Harmes, Margo Smith, James Kielbaso

NAYS: None

The Land Preservation Advisory Board returned to open session at 8:55 pm.

13. Adjournment

BOARD MEMBER SMITH MOVED, BOARD MEMBER MAYES SECONDED, TO CLOSE THE MEETING.

The meeting closed at 8:56 pm.

Land Preservation Advisory Board
February 10 2016

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- Emails to Board Members
 - ✓ Stewardship Network Conference Summary
 - ✓ Land Preservation Rules Sign, including responses from Margo Smith and Frank Hatfield (including copy of Ordinance and sign sample)

Kelsey Dillon

From: Kelsey Dillon
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 12:22 PM
To: 'kielbas3@anr.msu.edu'; 'steph143@msu.edu'; Julie Brixie; 'jtmayes@sbcglobal.net'; 'Margo.Smith@chm.msu.edu'; 'harmesr@aol.com'; 'hatfield@egr.msu.edu'; 'leeyum@msu.edu'
Cc: Jane Greenway
Subject: Stewardship Network Conference Summary
Attachments: Stewardship Network Conference Notes for LPAB.docx

Hello LPAB Members!

As you know Jane, Margo, and I attended the Stewardship Network Conference on Friday 01/15. I thought it'd be helpful for everyone who didn't attend to summarize some of the talks we saw and the ideas that we came up with while at the conference. I've attached the notes to this email.

Margo, maybe you could add your notes and ideas as well since you saw a few different presentations?

Best,
Kelsey Dillon

--
Land Stewardship Assistant
Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Haslett, MI 48840
Phone 517-853-4600
Fax 517-853-4099

Stewardship Network Conference Notes for LPAB

Pollinator Presentation. Meghan Milbrath from Michigan State University did an amazing job with this presentation and it was one of my favorites. She owns her own bee hives and spoke about the plight of bees and pollinators in general (scary stuff!). Jane and I saw this presentation and think that she would be a great person to interview for one of the HOMTV episodes. She's very personable and had a lot of great tips for homeowners to support pollinators. She also mentioned a lot of great funding opportunities for projects improving pollinator habitat. I'll definitely look into these.

Seedbank Analysis for Restoration Efforts. This was a well done presentation about how understanding site history and the seedbank can really help with restoration efforts. While a lot of their experimental design seemed impractical (growing out seed cores for several years before proceeding with restoration efforts), some of their results might be useful for our purposes. They have found that a lot of "weedy" species that are short lived in the seed bank need minimal effort to suppress and that simply mowing the plants before the seeds drop will be effective at controlling a large population. More strenuous efforts need to be taken with semi-permanent seeder species and long-term management plans should always be made when these species are present.

Reforestation Methods. Tom Borgman from the Great Parks of Hamilton County (I met him a few times while working in Ohio) gave a very informative talk on reforestation in natural areas. He manages 17,000 acres of parks near Cincinnati and spoke about several different tree planting methods (direct seeding, bare root planting, etc.). One of the most useful things he talked about was tree protection after planting. He recommends using turf reinforcement mesh on larger saplings that cannot fit into tubes (like the Blue X tubes we used in Towar Woods). This product is traditionally used on turf farms but after seeing the sample he brought I understand how useful it can be in a tree protection application. He estimates the cost at \$5-10 a tree (expensive when talking seedling protection, but for larger established saplings it's pretty cheap).

Also, Jim Hewitt emailed me after the conference with a few great ideas as well. He saw the presentation by Emily Duthinh from Oakland County (I couldn't make this one) and she talked about how their program creates herbicide "kits" for volunteers. The kit includes a small bottle, literature about invasives and the herbicide to use, and disposable gloves. Emily said they give out these kits during demonstration events where she shows them how to properly use the herbicide to treat invasive plants (their big push is for people to use this on Phragmites). Jim was thinking we could easily do this in Meridian Township and I agree. It would be an easy project to coordinate and training volunteers to use herbicide treatments not only at their own homes but out in the preserves when they volunteer with us would be very helpful. We were thinking either the 10th or 17th of September for the event.

Kelsey Dillon

From: Margo Smith <Margo.Smith@chm.msu.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 1:08 PM
To: Kelsey Dillon; hatfield@egr.msu.edu; kielbas3@anr.msu.edu; steph143@msu.edu; Julie Brixie; jtmayes@sbcglobal.net; harmesr@aol.com; leeyum@msu.edu
Cc: Jane Greenway; Robin Faust
Subject: RE: Land Preservation Rules Sign

Here are my suggestions.

Margo

Land Preserve Rules

Enjoyable Activities:

Hiking and Jogging

Bird and Wild Life Viewing

Walking Dogs on Leash

Cross-country Skiing and Snowshoeing

Photography

Prohibited by Ordinance:

Dogs off-leash

Not picking up and properly disposing of pet's feces

Bicycles except where permission is posted at trail head

Picking and collecting wildflowers, fruits, mushrooms

Littering and dumping of trash and yard waste

Hunting and trapping of wild animals except for authorized deer cull

Fires

Firearms or other weapons except as authorized for deer cull

Horses and other draft animals

Vehicle traffic or parking

Camping

Fireworks

Swimming, boating, skating, sledding

Model airplanes

Club and Team activities except as authorized

From: Kelsey Dillon [mailto:dillon@meridian.mi.us]

Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 11:53 AM

To: hatfield@egr.msu.edu; kielbas3@anr.msu.edu; steph143@msu.edu; Julie Brixie; jtmayes@sbcglobal.net; Margo Smith; harmesr@aol.com; leeyum@msu.edu

Cc: Jane Greenway; Robin Faust

Subject: RE: Land Preservation Rules Sign

Thank you for your comments, Frank and Jim. I will include these in the meeting packet so we can discuss everyone's ideas. I would please ask if the rest of the group could take a look at the Park Rules Sign and the Land Preserve

Ordinance (attached) before the meeting and either send me your notes (if you have any) by tomorrow for the packet or just bring them to the meeting for discussion. I think this will expedite the process greatly.

Thanks again,
Kelsey Dillon

From: Frank Hatfield [mailto:hatfield@egr.msu.edu]
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 11:36 AM
To: Kielbaso, J; Kelsey Dillon; steph143@msu.edu; Julie Brixie; jtmayes@sbcglobal.net; Margo.Smith@chm.msu.edu; harmesr@aol.com; Lee, Yu
Cc: Jane Greenway; Robin Faust
Subject: Re: Land Preservation Rules Sign

Those are all good issues to discuss at our next meeting. Yes, brevity is desirable, as is faithful representation of the ordinance. -- Frank

On 1/29/2016 10:18 AM, Kielbaso, J wrote:

Frank, Thank you very much for the thoughtful review of what Kelsey provided relative to Meridian Parks, which is what she asked us to do in preparation for our signage. It is very appropriate to note that this is for the Preserve System. However, your numbers 18 and 23 would conflict a bit with our deer management strategy, although it seems appropriate. Any better way to word? Might # 21 be a bit better as "cutting/removing trees? Are llamas commonly seen? Brevity is important. Thanks, again, Frank, jim

From: Frank Hatfield [mailto:hatfield@egr.msu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2016 4:39 PM
To: Kelsey Dillon; Kielbaso, J; steph143@msu.edu; Julie Brixie; jtmayes@sbcglobal.net; Margo.Smith@chm.msu.edu; harmesr@aol.com; Lee, Yu
Cc: Jane Greenway; Robin Faust
Subject: Re: Land Preservation Rules Sign

Kelsey and LPAB --

Attached is the parks rule sign with my handwritten numbers that refer to the following revisions. My comments (not part of sign) are in Italics and parentheses.

1. PRESERVE RULES
2. Welcome to Meridian Township Preserves
3. ENJOY: *(shorter and more inviting without "Activities")*
4. Hiking and jogging *(biking is prohibited except for two preserves)*
5. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing
6. Walking dogs on leash (feces must be removed) *("pick up" is vague)*
7. *(omit -- vehicles are prohibited with some exceptions)*
8. *(omit - fires are prohibited)*
9. *(omit -- horses, etc., are prohibited)*
10. Photography *(this seems to be a popular activity)*
11. Dogs off leash
12. Failure to remove feces from preserve property *("properly disposed" apparently is not understood)*
13. Littering and dumping of trash
14. Bicycles, except where permission is posted at trail head

15. Horses, llamas, and draft animals
16. Picking or removing trees, plants or flowers* (*the ordinance does not include fruits and fungi*)
17. (*omit -- the ordinance does not mention metal detectors*)
18. Hunting, trapping, or injuring wildlife*
19. Disturbing nests or other wildlife habitations*
20. Model aircraft (*generalized to include drones, which are not mentioned in the ordinance*)
21. Cutting trees* (*the ordinance does not mention wood*)
22. Fires*
23. Use of firearms and other weapons potentially dangerous to wildlife or people*
24. Vehicles, except wheelchairs and other ambulatory assistance devices
25. Club and team activities*

(the number of prohibitions seems overwhelming but does not include all that are in the ordinance, and enforcement is impractical. Perhaps only the most common violations should be listed.)

26. *Except as authorized by Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Office at 517-853-4600
(replaces "Reservations... 4600")

27. The Meridian Township Land Preservation ordinance is available at www.meridian.mi.us. (Ord. 22, Environment)

28. Enjoy your Preserve (*or omit if sign seems too crowded*)

On 1/27/2016 10:18 AM, Kelsey Dillon wrote:

Hello LPAB Members,

In our last meeting we discussed the land preservation rules signs. I've attached the Park Rules sign we can use as a starting point and also the Public Conduct Section of the Land Preservation Zoning Ordinance (can also be found in your binders). Please take some time to review the park sign and the ordinance and then email me your notes on what you'd like to change and keep. We will discuss everyone's ideas at the February meeting.

Thank you!
Kelsey Dillon

--

Land Stewardship Assistant
Meridian Township Parks and Recreation
2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Haslett, MI 48840
Phone 517-853-4600
Fax 517-853-4099

Now you can like the "Meridian Parks Volunteer Connection" on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1676277579259237/>

Meridian Charter Township, (Ingham Co.), Michigan, Code of Ordinances >> - CODE OF ORDINANCES
>> **Chapter 22 - ENVIRONMENT** >> **ARTICLE III. - LAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM** >> **DIVISION 3. - PUBLIC CONDUCT** >>

DIVISION 3. - PUBLIC CONDUCT

Sec. 22-94. - Hours.

Sec. 22-95. - Destruction of land preservation property.

Sec. 22-96. - Land preservation wildlife.

Sec. 22-97. - Firearms and other weapons.

Sec. 22-98. - Club and team activities.

Sec. 22-99. - Dogs and other domestic pets.

Sec. 22-100. - Bicycles.

Sec. 22-101. - Vehicle traffic and parking.

Sec. 22-102. - Horses and other draft animals.

Sec. 22-103. - Camping.

Sec. 22-104. - Fires.

Sec. 22-105. - Fireworks.

Sec. 22-106. - Swimming.

Sec. 22-107. - Boating.

Sec. 22-108. - Model airplanes.

Sec. 22-109. - Loudspeakers.

Sec. 22-110. - Skating and sledding.

Sec. 22-111. - Peddling and soliciting.

Sec. 22-112. - Unlawful obstruction.

Sec. 22-113. - Installations, construction, or maintenance.

Secs. 22-114, 22-115. - Reserved.

Sec. 22-94. - Hours.

No person shall be on land preservation property earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sundown. Anyone wishing extended hours usage may make the request to the land preservation advisory board.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-95. - Destruction of land preservation property.

No person on land preservation property shall damage, deface, destroy, throw or deposit trash or litter on land preservation property. No person shall remove any shrub, tree, flower, or natural resource except as authorized from time to time by the township through its land management personnel upon such terms as recommended by the land preservation advisory board for the purpose of:

- (1) Controlling or eliminating nonnative species;
- (2) Controlling the overpopulation of species;
- (3)

- Preserving public health; or
- (4) Promoting or preserving the integrity, quality, and function of the ecological resources of land preservation property.

Any violation of this section is a municipal civil infraction punishable as provided by this Code.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-96. - Land preservation wildlife.

No person shall hunt, trap, catch, wound, kill or attempt to hunt, trap, catch, wound, or kill any mammal, bird or reptile or destroy, disturb, or molest any nest, egg, lair, den, or burrow of any animal on land preservation property at any time except as authorized, from time to time, by the land preservation advisory board through its land management personnel upon such terms as recommended for the purpose of:

- (1) Controlling or eliminating nonnative species;
- (2) Controlling the overpopulation of species;
- (3) Preserving public health; or
- (4) Promoting or preserving the integrity, quality, and function of the ecological resources of land preservation property.

Any such authorization by the land preservation advisory board through its land management personnel shall not be considered a disposition of a property interest requiring authorization under section 22-59.

Fishing shall be allowed on land preservation property, by floating or wading, with access from non land preservation property, subject to all state and local laws. Any violation of this section is subject to the Recreational Trespass Act, (MCLA 324.73101—324.73111) and any amendments or revisions which are adopted by reference as part of this division.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007; Ord. No. 2012-07, § 1, 10-21-2012)

Sec. 22-97. - Firearms and other weapons.

Except as authorized by Section 22-96, no person shall, at any time, discharge anywhere upon land preservation property, any firearm of any description, including an air-rifle, spring gun, bow and arrow, sling, or any instrument that can be loaded with and fire blank cartridges or any other form of weapon or device potentially dangerous to wildlife and human safety. Shooting into land preservation property from any non land preservation property is prohibited. This section, however, shall not apply to any duly appointed law enforcement officer while carrying out the duties and responsibilities of their position. Any violation is subject to the Recreational Trespass Act, (MCLA 324.73101—324.73111) and any amendments or revisions which are adopted by reference as part of this division.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007; Ord. No. 2012-07, § 1, 10-21-2012)

Sec. 22-98. - Club and team activities.

Express written permission is required for club and team activities upon land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-99. - Dogs and other domestic pets.

- (a) *Permitted.* Unless posted otherwise, dogs and other domestic pets may be brought upon Land Preservation property.
- (b) *Control.* Unless posted otherwise, any dog on land preservation property shall be on a leash of six feet or less and at all times shall be under the immediate control of a competent person.
- (c) *Removal of feces.* Any person having custody of a dog on land preservation property shall immediately remove all feces deposited by such dog on any public footpath or other area frequented by the public, and shall dispose of same in a sanitary manner.
- (d) *Application to guide, service, or leader dogs.* This section does not prohibit the use of guide dogs, service dogs, or leader dogs as provided and defined in section 502c of the Michigan Penal Code (MCL 750.502c).

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-100. - Bicycles.

Unless posted otherwise, bicycles are prohibited on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-101. - Vehicle traffic and parking.

- (a) No person shall operate or park any vehicle, motorized or otherwise, on land preservation property excluding wheelchairs or other ADA ambulatory assistance devices and vehicles necessary for maintenance or emergencies.
- (b) No person shall leave, or cause to be left, any vehicle upon land preservation property. Members of the township police and fire departments are authorized to remove or have removed any such vehicle at the owner's expense.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-102. - Horses and other draft animals.

Unless posted otherwise, no horse or other draft animal may be brought on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-103. - Camping.

No camping is allowed on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-104. - Fires.

- (1) No unauthorized person shall willfully set or cause to be set on fire any tree, woodland, brush land, grassland, meadow or structure on land preservation property.
- (2)

No person shall drop, throw, or otherwise scatter lighted matches, burning cigars, cigarettes, tobacco paper, or other flammable materials on land preservation property.

No fires shall be allowed on land preservation property except as authorized from time to time, by the land preservation advisory board and for the purpose of:

- (i) Controlling or eliminating nonnative species;
- (ii) Controlling the overpopulation of species;
- (iii) Preserving public health; or
- (iv) Promoting or preserving the integrity, quality, and function of the ecological resources of land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-105. - Fireworks.

No person shall fire, discharge, or have in their possession any rocket, firecracker, torpedo, squib, or other firework or any substance of an explosive nature within land preservation property. Any violation of this section is a municipal civil infraction punishable as provided by this Code.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-106. - Swimming.

No person shall swim or bathe in any drain or pond located entirely within land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-107. - Boating.

No person shall bring, use, or navigate any boat, canoe, raft, or other watercraft upon any drain or pond located entirely within a land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-108. - Model airplanes.

No person shall operate a motorized model airplane on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-109. - Loudspeakers.

No person shall use a loudspeaker, public address system, or amplifier on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-110. - Skating and sledding.

Unless posted otherwise, no person shall skate, walk, or go upon any ice on any drain or pond entirely within land preservation property. Unless posted otherwise no person shall sled,

toboggan or coast with a hand-sled, bobsled, cart, or other apparatus on wheels or runners on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-111. - Peddling and soliciting.

No person shall peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever, distribute handbills or other advertising matter, post any unauthorized sign, anywhere on land preservation property.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-112. - Unlawful obstruction.

No person shall by force, threat, intimidation, unlawful fencing, or enclosing, or by any other means, prevent any person from using land preservation property consistent with the protection, preservation and enhancement of land preservation property. Protection, preservation and enhancement shall be defined in each individual property's stewardship implementation plan and the land preservation guidelines adopted by the land preservation advisory board. This section, however, shall not apply to any duly appointed law enforcement officer or fire official when carrying out the duties and responsibilities of their position.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Sec. 22-113. - Installations, construction, or maintenance.

No installation, construction, or maintenance shall be made above or below ground, across or beneath Land Preservation property by any person, except duly authorized personnel, without the prior written permission of the land preservation advisory board through land management personnel for such installation, construction, or maintenance specifying in detail the work to be done and any conditions to be met.

(Ord. No. 2007-15, § 3, 12-16-2007)

Secs. 22-114, 22-115. - Reserved.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

PARK RULES

Welcome to the Meridian Township Park System
OPEN FROM DAWN TO DUSK

ENJOYABLE ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ Hiking & biking
- ◆ Bird & wild life watching
- ◆ Canoeing/kayaking
- ◆ Walking dogs on a leash (Pick up after pets)
- ◆ Motorized vehicles in designated parking areas
- ◆ Fires in designated grills or fire pits
- ◆ Fishing with a valid state fishing license
- ◆ Horses, llamas and other draft animals on trails

PROHIBITED BY ORDINANCE:

- ◆ Dogs off-leash in parks & natural areas
- ◆ Not picking up & properly disposing of your pet's feces
- ◆ Bicycles or horses on soft or muddy trails
- ◆ Picking and collecting wildflowers, fruits & mushrooms
- ◆ Camping
- ◆ Fireworks
- ◆ Metal detectors
- ◆ Hunting & trapping animals
- ◆ Flying of model airplanes
- ◆ Removing wood or plants
- ◆ On any pond or public drain:
 - Swimming
 - Boating
 - Ice skating

Reservations for pavilion or athletic field use may be arranged by calling the Meridian Township Parks & Recreation Office at 517-853-4600.

If you observe a violation of these rules including vandalism, please report the incident to the Meridian Township Police Department at 517-853-4800 or call 911.

A copy of the complete Meridian Township Park Ordinance is available at www.meridian.mi.us. (Ord. Ch 54, Park and Recreation)

 Enjoy your Parks.

WWW.MERIDIAN.MI.US



Land Preservation Advisory Board
February 10 2016

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Contribution to The Stewardship Network
- b. Prescribed burn at Davis/Foster Land Preserve

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

TO: Land Preservation Advisory Board

FROM: Jane Greenway
Jane Greenway
Land Management Coordinator

DATE: February 3, 2016

RE: Financial Support of The Stewardship Network



The Land Preservation Advisory Board became a member of The Stewardship Network in 2009. The Stewardship Network is a grassroots cooperative organization working to protect, restore, and manage Michigan's natural lands and waters. It helps individuals, organizations, and businesses manage specific sites through sharing ideas, resources, and information. Our Mid-Michigan Cluster of the Stewardship Network (MMSI) involves the community in conserving native plants and wildlife in all their natural diversity.

The central Stewardship Network office has been especially supportive this past year of our regional efforts including the following:

1. They set up a new website for the Mid-Michigan Cluster that we edit and post our events and informative documents on invasive and native species and restoration to share with others.
2. They featured our regional Japanese knotweed control efforts as a national webcast topic in November.
3. They provided a strong letter of support for our Michigan Invasive Species Grant application (still waiting to hear results).
4. They advertise our workshops via a mailing list of thousands of recipients.
5. They continue providing useful connections to statewide experts, including all the other cluster coordinators, with whom we have webchats and face-to-face meetings; and they make connections for us with other professionals who provide free consulting when we have specific needs (e.g., how to effectively track multidimensional data about invasive species, river monitoring data, and ownership along riparian corridors).
6. They help us develop valuable new regional partnerships, (e.g., with the conservation districts).

Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative would use our \$2,500 in local support in the following ways:

1. Carry out our wetland invasive species control efforts (Phragmites, Japanese knotweed, and garlic mustard, in particular) on more than 100 sites throughout Meridian Township, including sites in Ted Black Woods, SW Meridian Uplands Preserve, and Davis Foster Preserve. The funding would provide supplies needed to carry out this work.
2. To help Meridian Twp. staff (Parks, LPAB, Planning, and Public Works) with questions and technical needs related to invasive species control and native plant restoration.

3. To support free public workshops that provide interpretive tours of regional natural areas led by experts, and provide hands-on learning on invasive species control, native plant identification, aquatic invasive species ID and control, and other topics.
4. To prepare and distribute informational flyers and brochures on these issues to the township residents.
5. To engage and train volunteers in contributing to invasive species control and volunteering in our regional parks and public areas

We are proposing a \$5,000 contribution to the Stewardship Network. The support will be divided 50-50 with \$2,500 going to the Stewardship Network and \$2,500 to the Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative, to be held/dispursed through the Friends of Ingham County Parks account.

The following motion is proposed:

MOVE that the Land Preservation Advisory Board approve the expenditure of \$5,000.00 of maintenance funds for the purpose of supporting the Stewardship Network. \$2,500 of the total should be allocated to the Mid-Michigan Cluster of the Stewardship Network.

MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

TO: Land Preservation Advisory Board

FROM: Jane Greenway
Jane Greenway
Land Management Coordinator

Kelsey Dillon
Kelsey Dillon
Land stewardship Assistant

DATE: February 10, 2016

RE: Motion for Prescribed Burn at Davis Foster Land Preserve



Background

In spring 2014, we conducted a prescribed burn on two of the four burn units that make up the restored grassland at the Davis Foster Land Preserve. These units must be burned on a rotational basis in order to maintain the grassland and the two units that were not burned in 2014 are due to be burned in 2016.

Rationale for Prescribed Burns

Some benefits of a prescribed burn on this area include; discouraged growth of woody plants and fire intolerant species, diversified grasses and forbs, increased nutrient availability and exposed soil for better seed germination.

Rotational burning allows for wildlife to seek refuge in unburned areas. A complete site burn can wipe out certain populations in vulnerable states such as nesting and may not mimic natural site disturbance. To discourage woody encroachment it is recommended that periodic burns be scheduled on a rotational basis across the restored area within the preserve. It is also recommended that the burns take place in altering seasons; spring and fall. This will provide a diversity of structural conditions throughout, as well as diversify grasses and forbs present.

Henslow's Sparrow

The presence of Henslow's sparrow, a state endangered species, does have legal implications. Any form of habitat management from late April through late September will require an Incidental Take Permit issued from the DNR Wildlife Division. A wildlife biologist will review and decide whether or not to approve the action based on the level of impact and whether or not the species will be present. Henslow's sparrow requires large flat fields with little to no woody

plants, with tall dense grass, a dense litter layer and standing dead vegetation. It eats primarily insects, mostly grasshoppers and beetles. It feeds and nests on the ground, and is reluctant to fly if disturbed. Periodic rotational burning will maintain conditions to conserve this species.

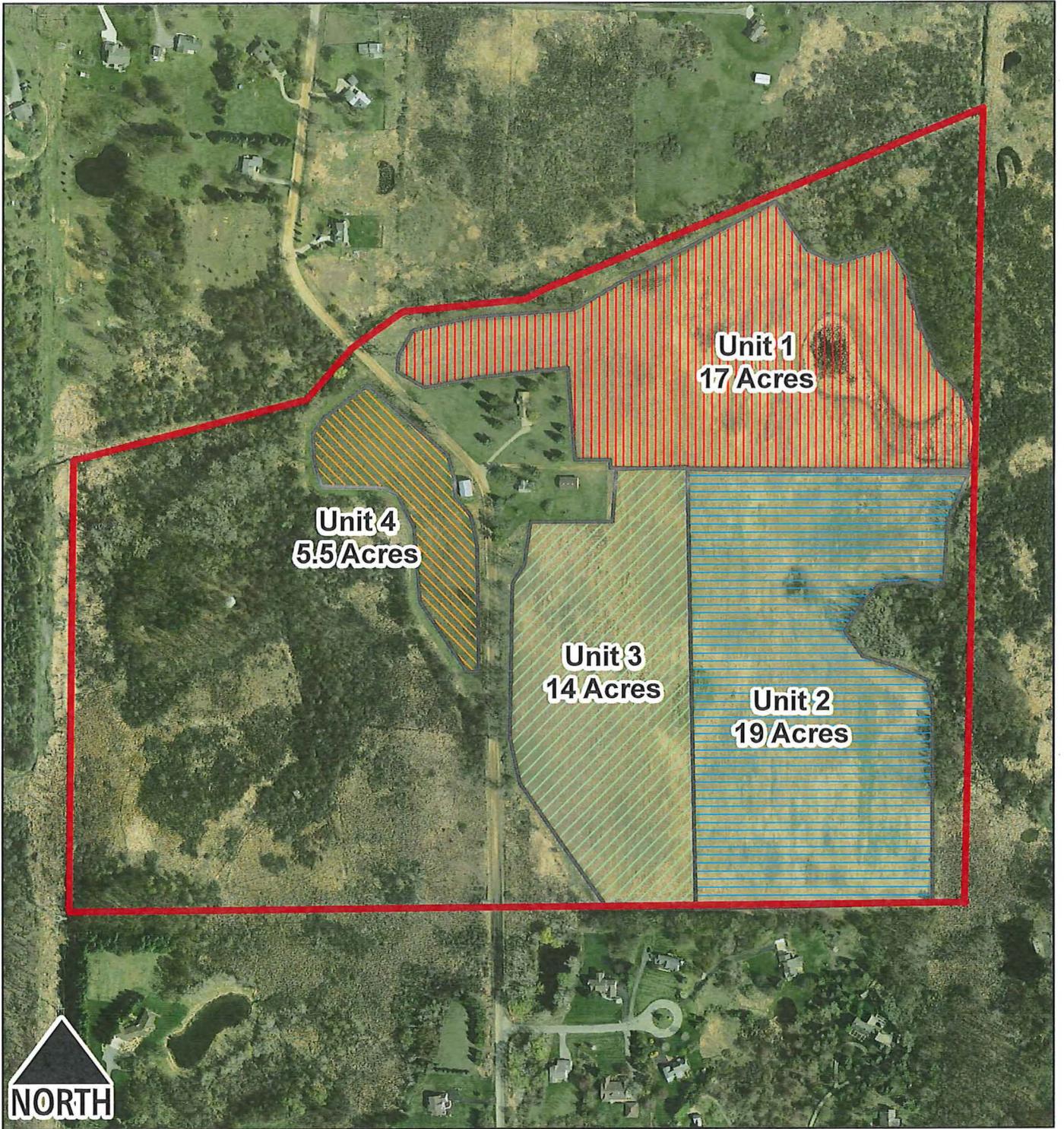
2016 Plan

We will burn Unit 2 (19 acres) in March of 2016 and Unit 1 (17 acres) in October of 2016. This burn will continue the rotational burn plan that has been implemented thus far at Davis Foster.

The following motion is proposed:

MOVE that the Land Preservation Advisory Board approve the expenditure of up to \$8,000.00 of maintenance funds for the purpose of conducting two prescribed burns in 2016 at the Davis Foster Land Preserve.

Davis Foster Land Preserve Burn Units



0 225 450 900 Feet

Land Preservation Advisory Board
February 10 2016

8. LAND MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR
AND LAND STEWARDSHIP
ASSISTANT REPORT

- Stewardship Assistant Report for Kelsey Dillon Monthly Accomplishments and Updates - January 2016
- Meridian Township Land Preservation - 2016 - Proposed Management Activities and Opinion of Cost
- Stewardship Network Conference Notes for LPAB
- Map of Towar Woods Preserve

Stewardship Assistant Report for Kelsey Dillon
Monthly Accomplishments and Updates – January 2016

01/03-01/09

- Finished the Proposed Management and Opinion of Cost Budget Spreadsheet
 - Determining 2016 budget proposals and accomplishments of 2015
- Forest Grove and Northridge Land Preservation Sign installation complete by Maintenance Dept.
 - Installed on 12/31/15, permits filed
 - Map created of the location for board meeting
- Finalized Press Release for boy scout work day
 - Sent to HomTV, copy in LPAB meeting packet for January
- Worked on Quarterly Parks and Recreation Report for October – December
 - Land Preservation section completed
- Installation of the small sign at Towar Woods at the entrance within the Castle Pointe apartment complex by the maintenance dept.
- Started work on the natural area preservation newsletter modeled after Ann Arbor's
 - Starting with one page and later expanding to a multi-page newsletter

01/10-01/16

- New Post on the Meridian Volunteer Connection's FB Group Page about volunteerism in December
 - Saved in folder
- Development of a detailed script for the Land Stewardship HOMTV Program
 - Setting up a meeting between LuAnn, Jane, and Deborah Guthrie to discuss the program
 - Combine why stewardship is important with the February volunteerism topics
- Design for Invasive Species Clean up Stations
 - Use dog waste clean-up bags and the stations with different writing
 - The dog waste bags are already needed in the preserves so it'd be a great way to kill two birds with one stone
- Ordering of Invasive Species Flags
 - Say "Invasive Species" with Meridian Townships logo on them (final design saved in file)
 - Use these to help volunteer groups identify certain invasive species I parks and preserves; 1,000 ordered
- Land Preservation Board Meeting
 - Presented 2016 management plan and opinion of costs
 - Agreed that most of the money needs to be spent in the management of preserves
 - Look into hiring outside contractors for larger projects in preserves (Sturk?)
 - Continue with sign installation and rules signs at the preserves
 - Show the rules signs to the members before they go to print
- Full day Stewardship Network Conference on Friday 01/15

01/17-01/22

- Development of the script for the first episode of the Land Stewardship show on HOMTV
 - Show dedicated to educating the public about the importance of natural areas and why we need volunteers to maintain them
 - First episode is an introduction to stewardship, invasive species, and volunteerism
- 2016 Stewardship Network Conference Write up
 - Great networking and idea development for new stewardship programs for volunteers
 - Idea with Jim Hewitt about herbicide “kits”
- Set Date for Invasive Species Kit Demonstrations in September with Jim Hewitt and the Stewardship Network
 - Giving out kits to homeowners to combat invasive species in their own yards and in Meridian Park Natural Areas increasing the effectiveness of volunteers in the field
- Spoke with Steve Thomas about getting volunteer stewardship days going in Sower Woods
 - He thinks starting Garlic Mustard pulls in May would be effective
 - He will lead a monthly Stewardship Day out in Sower Woods and eventually we hope this will be a self-sustaining program that will need little management/oversight
- Start work developing ideas for the viewing platform at Davis Foster
 - Looked at examples from other parks of wildlife viewing and photography blinds
 - There might be a grant from the DNR (Recreation Passport) that could help fund the project; I'll do more research into this

01/24-01/30

- **3 day week**
- Volunteered at the Polar Bear 5k Race on Sunday 01/24
 - Signing in pre-registered participants and taking photos
- Further development of HOMTV script for first episode
- Walked Red Cedar Glen Preserve to find areas good for dog waste station and trash bin
 - We will put these at the trail head at the end of Sylvan Glen Road
- Ordered two dog waste stations for Red Cedar Glen and Davis Foster Preserves
 - Davis Foster placement still needs to be determined when the order gets in; we're thinking either near the parking lot or trailhead to the prairie
 - Dog waste receptacle cans will also be placed next to these
- Checked on some of the saplings in Red Cedar Glen, doesn't seem like any deer damage
 - Barriers still intact
- Studying for Aquatic Pesticide Exam
- Coordination with Leslie and Jim about the September Treatment event
 - If demonstrating on phrag is possible
- Set up meeting with Dave C. to assess the pine trees in Towar woods
 - Also to start project coordination

01/31-02/06

- Set up meeting with Vern Stephens to visit Greenhouse
 - Will discuss specific plans for the prairie planting this spring
- Visit to Towar Woods for Planning Session with Dave C.
 - Pine seedlings look great!!
 - Take inventory of herbicide for 2016 planning
 - Recruit Don Dickmann for tree planting planning
 - 40 Burr Oak, 40 Sugar Maple, 40 Red Oak
 - Dave is going to take inventory of tree tubes he has before ordering more
 - All 120 trees will be tubed and tagged
 - Dave is going to contact Matt Jones' Landscaping Company for contract work
 - Mow down more undesirable brush to create more open tree planting area
 - Recruitment of Castle Pointe volunteers for trash and yard waste cleanup in focus area
 - Involve cub scout troops again
 - Work order for broken bollard
- LPAB Meeting Packet Prep
 - Create map of Towar Woods Projects
- Meeting with Dave Reicosky
 - Pollinator Weigh Station maintained by the Garden Club
 - Continuation of the milkweed plantings in Hartrick
 - Milkweed Pod Seed collection (possibly with Mid-Michigan Stewardship Network)
 - How to support the movement for the Monarch as the State Insect of Michigan

Meridian Township Land Preservation - 2016										
Proposed Management Activities & Opinion of Cost										
			QUANTITY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
1 Land Preservation Signs										
	Davis/Foster		1 large				\$2,000			
	Foster Crouse									
	Hubbel		1 small	\$1,000			\$1,000			
	Kuzma									
	Lake Lansing North									
	Newman Equities									
	Towar Woods		3 small	\$2,000		\$1,000				
	Lake Lansing South (Potter)									
	Central Meridian Uplands		1 large, 1 small		\$2,000	\$1,000				
	Sower Woods									
	Tihart/Cornell Wetland		1 large				\$2,000			
	Southwest Meridian Uplands		3 small	\$3,000						
	Sumbal									
	Red Cedar Glen									
	Towner Road Wetland		1 large, 1 small				\$3,000			
	Meridian Central Wetlands		2 small		\$2,000					
	Red Cedar River East		1 large, 1 small				\$3,000			
	Northridge		1 small		\$1,000					
	Forest Grove		2 large		\$4,000					
			Subtotal =	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$2,000	\$11,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
2 Property Boundary Marker Posts & Installation										
	Southwest Meridian Uplands			\$6,900						
	Meridian Central Wetland			\$2,500						
	Red Cedar River East							\$4,000		
	Northridge					\$4,000				
	Forest Grove					\$5,500				

	QUANTITY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Lake Lansing North			\$10,000					
	Subtotal =	\$9,400	\$10,000	\$9,500	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$0
3 Boundary Surveys								
Southwest Meridian Uplands		\$6,100						
Lake Lansing North					\$8,000			
Red Cedar River East			\$4,000					
Northridge			\$4,000					
Forest Grove			\$4,000					
	Subtotal =	\$6,100	\$12,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
4 Interpretive Signage/Trailheads								
Davis/Foster - east side	1				\$15,050			
Foster Crouse					\$50			
Hubbel					\$50			
Kuzma					\$50			
Lake Lansing North					\$50			
Newman Equities					\$50			
Towar Woods					\$50			
Lake Lansing South (Potter)					\$50			
Central Meridian Uplands	1		\$1,000		\$50			
Sower Woods - south side	1		\$1,000		\$50			
Tihart/Cornell Wetland					\$50			
Southwest Meridian Uplands	3				\$3,050			
Sumbal					\$50			
Red Cedar Glen	1		\$1,000		\$50			
Towner Road Wetland					\$50			
Meridian Central Wetlands					\$50			
Red Cedar River East					\$50			
Northridge					\$50			
Forest Grove					\$50			
	Subtotal=	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$18,950	\$0	\$0	\$0

	QUANTITY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
5 Rules Signs								
Davis/Foster	2				\$100			
Foster-Crouse	1				\$50			
Hubbel	2				\$100			
Kuzma	1				\$50			
Lake Lansing North (HDI)	1				\$50			
Newman Equities	1				\$50			
Towar Woods	5				\$250			
Lake Lansing South (Potter)	2				\$100			
Central Meridian Uplands	3				\$150			
Sower Woods	2				\$100			
Tihart/Cornell Wetland	3				\$150			
Southwest Meridian Uplands	3				\$150			
Sumbal	1				\$50			
Red Cedar Glen	2				\$100			
Towner Road Wetland	2				\$100			
Meridian Central Wetland	3				\$150			
Red Cedar River East	2				\$100			
Northridge	2				\$100			
Forest Grove	2				\$100			
	Subtotal =	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
6 Stewardship Plans/Invasive Species Assessments								
Southwest Land Preserve								
Red Cedar River East						\$4,000		
Northridge						\$4,000		
Forest Grove							\$3,000	
	Subtotal =	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$8,000	\$3,000	\$0

Central Meridian Uplands	QUANTITY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sower Woods								
Tihart/Cornell Wetland								
Southwest Meridian Uplands				\$10,000	\$5,000	\$6,000		
Sumbal								
Red Cedar Glen								
Towner Road Wetland								
Meridian Central Wetland								
Red Cedar River East								
Northridge								
Forest Grove								
Subtotal =		\$10,500	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$20,500	\$9,000	\$6,000	\$0
9 Trail Maintenance								
All applicable preserves		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$1,600
Subtotal =		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,400	\$1,600	\$1,600
10 Stewardship Groups								
Stewardship Network - support		\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative		\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500
Subtotal =		\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
11 Wages and Benefits								
Grounds Maint. & Township Fees (taxes, assessments, mowing, etc)		\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$44,000	\$44,000
Parks and Land Management Coordinator		\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$50,000	\$52,500	\$55,000	\$57,500
Assistant Naturalist/Stewardship Coordinator		\$30,000	\$30,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Subtotal =		\$105,000	\$110,000	\$125,000	\$132,000	\$134,500	\$139,000	\$141,500
TOTAL=		\$143,000	\$183,500	\$153,700	\$206,650	\$169,400	\$154,600	\$148,100

Budget Summary for Land Preservation Millage, 2012 - 2019

Note: The investment income amounts are ESTIMATES ONLY.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Long-term Maintenance Account (210)								
This is reserved for maintenance and the number will never change. The interest generated from this account is earmarked for perpetual maintenance.								
It is the total of 25% of millage revenue collected in the first millage (2000-2009), \$2,707,300.								
Annual Investment Income on 210 Acct.		\$18,129	\$18,129	\$18,129	\$18,129	\$18,129	\$18,129	\$18,129
Grant Revenue		\$7,613	\$1,288					
Unrestricted Maintenance Balance		\$263,918						
TOTAL=		\$289,660	\$309,077	\$327,206	\$345,335	\$363,464	\$381,593	\$399,722

Acquisition and Maintenance Account (209)

These funds may be spent on land acquisition or maintenance.

Note: Total available for acquisition only left over from 1st millage = \$372,269 (shown as part of fund balance)

Fund balance	\$1,406,332	\$1,406,332	\$1,920,116	\$2,433,900	\$2,947,684	\$3,461,468	4,489,036	\$5,002,820
Tax Revenue		\$513,784	\$513,784	\$513,784	\$513,784	\$513,784	\$513,784	\$513,784
TOTAL=	\$1,406,332	\$1,920,116	\$2,433,900	\$2,947,684	\$3,461,468	\$3,975,252	5,002,820	\$5,516,604
PROJECTED EXPENSES=		\$169,000	\$197,000	\$164,900	\$206,650	\$169,400	\$154,600	\$148,100
TOTAL=		\$1,751,116	\$2,236,900	\$2,782,784	\$3,254,818	\$3,805,852	4848220	\$5,368,504

Stewardship Network Conference Notes for LPAB

Pollinator Presentation. Meghan Milbrath from Michigan State University did an amazing job with this presentation and it was one of my favorites. She owns her own bee hives and spoke about the plight of bees and pollinators in general (scary stuff!). Jane and I saw this presentation and think that she would be a great person to interview for one of the HOMTV episodes. She's very personable and had a lot of great tips for homeowners to support pollinators. She also mentioned a lot of great funding opportunities for projects improving pollinator habitat. I'll definitely look into these.

Seedbank Analysis for Restoration Efforts. This was a well done presentation about how understanding site history and the seedbank can really help with restoration efforts. While a lot of their experimental design seemed impractical (growing out seed cores for several years before proceeding with restoration efforts), some of their results might be useful for our purposes. They have found that a lot of "weedy" species that are short lived in the seed bank need minimal effort to suppress and that simply mowing the plants before the seeds drop will be effective at controlling a large population. More strenuous efforts need to be taken with semi-permanent seeder species and long-term management plans should always be made when these species are present.

Reforestation Methods. Tom Borgman from the Great Parks of Hamilton County (I met him a few times while working in Ohio) gave a very informative talk on reforestation in natural areas. He manages 17,000 acres of parks near Cincinnati and spoke about several different tree planting methods (direct seeding, bare root planting, etc.). One of the most useful things he talked about was tree protection after planting. He recommends using turf reinforcement mesh on larger saplings that cannot fit into tubes (like the Blue X tubes we used in Towar Woods). This product is traditionally used on turf farms but after seeing the sample he brought I understand how useful it can be in a tree protection application. He estimates the cost at \$5-10 a tree (expensive when talking seedling protection, but for larger established saplings it's pretty cheap).

Also, Jim Hewitt emailed me after the conference with a few great ideas as well. He saw the presentation by Emily Duthinh from Oakland County (I couldn't make this one) and she talked about how their program creates herbicide "kits" for volunteers. The kit includes a small bottle, literature about invasives and the herbicide to use, and disposable gloves. Emily said they give out these kits during demonstration events where she shows them how to properly use the herbicide to treat invasive plants (their big push is for people to use this on Phragmites). Jim was thinking we could easily do this in Meridian Township and I agree. It would be an easy project to coordinate and training volunteers to use herbicide treatments not only at their own homes but out in the preserves when they volunteer with us would be very helpful. We were thinking either the 10th or 17th of September for the event.



- Trail
- New LP Sign
- Focus Area
- Potential Mow

