



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2019 7:15 pm

REGULAR MEETING – ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM FOLLOWING JOINT MEETING – APPROXIMATELY 7:15 PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
 2. PRESENTATIONS
 3. CITIZENS ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS
 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Work Session Minutes
 - B. Regular Meeting Minutes
 6. COMMUNICATIONS
 7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT
 8. ACTION ITEMS
 - A. Property Donation - Refer for Section 61 Review, Parcel #33-02-02-09-201-013 (Sleepy Hollow)
 9. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. 2019 Projects
 - B. Appointments
 - C. MParks Conference Sessions
 - D. Park Commission Vacancy
 10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC
 11. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS
 - A. Commissioner Comments
 - 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 – Property Consideration
 13. ADJOURNMENT
-

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Parks & Recreation Director, LuAnn Maisner: 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48864 or 517.853.4600 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: Town Hall, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864

Park Commission Meeting
January 15, 2019

5. MINUTES

- a. December 11, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING **DRAFT** MINUTES
Location: Central Fire Station, 5000 Okemos Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Date, Time December 11, 2018; 6:30 pm

PRESENT: Chair Michael McDonald; Commissioner Amanda Lick; Commissioner Annika Schaetzl; Commissioner Mark Stephen; Commissioner Courtney Wisinski

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: LuAnn Maisner, Director of Parks and Recreation

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair McDonald called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. November 13, 2018 Work Session
- B. November 13, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lick moved TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2018 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Meridian Press Releases
 - 1. Haslett and MSU Students Plant 25 Trees at Towner Road Park
 - 2. Begin Holiday Celebration with Old Fashioned Traditions – Meridian Historical Village Hosts Christmas in the Village Events

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

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. "Marketplace on the Green" project
Staff is still working with CBL Properties through our attorney to finalize the details of the land trade agreement. Efforts are being made to close by the end of the year if possible.
- B. TJ Acquisitions Land Donation to Park Commission
Staff is working through our attorney to finalize the 9-acre land donation adjacent to Hillbrook Park with the land owner, TJ Acquisitions. Efforts are being made to close by the end of the year.
- C. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grants
The Trust Fund Board will meet on December 12 to make the awards for 2018. Under consideration is the Towner Road Playground request.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Central Park Projects
Jesse Lewter, Wolverine Engineering and Surveyors, reviewed the design for the Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector and Gateway Footbridge and Restroom Projects with the Commissioners. The final plans will be sent to the DNR for approval with proposed bidding in February.
- B. Smoking and vaping rules in parks
The Commissioners engaged in a discussion on the best way to address smoking/vaping in our parks. There were multiple views including adding a rule, changing the ordinance, adding signs throughout the parks, add signs requesting people not to smoke in pavilions or playground areas.
- C. Park Signs
The Commissioners discussed the new Township Logo and how it can be integrated into our park signage. The Commissioners agreed that a style upgrade is overdue. Staff will research a few new designs for Park Commission to review and approve. Suggestions included using the new logo but in black and white and do two new signs per year.
- D. North Meridian Road Pavilion Ribbon Cutting
As part of the MNRTF grant requirement, we must host a ribbon cutting event to recognize the Trust Fund Program. Staff thought it would be good to hold the event in conjunction with a sledding event while school was on break. The proposed date is December 28, 1-3 pm and will include a bon fire, hot chocolate.
- E. Park Commission Rules and Procedures
Director Maisner will review the current document and provide recommended changes for a future meeting.
- F. Security in Parks
Following the vandalism that took place recently in Van Atta Woods Park, Chair McDonald requested that the Commissioners have a conversation on how to best deter this type of activity in the future. Currently, our Police Department unlock and then lock the park daily

as well as the restrooms. Our new park signs also provide a phone number for our police department to report this type of activity. Phone tree

Other suggestions include adding Trail Cameras, surveillance signage, and social media posts alerting people of the presence of Police during multiple time throughout the day.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. 2019 Meeting Calendar Resolution

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Lick and supported by Commissioner Wisinski.

WHEREAS, the Park Commission desires to announce the time, date, and place of all meetings of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission deems the 2019 regular meeting schedule sufficient to uphold the Township Board's Policies and Procedures, and advancement toward the Board's Global Ends; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Park Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, that the Park Commission adopts its regular 2019 meeting schedule as follows:

Date	Location	Time
January 15*	Town Hall Room	Joint Meeting with Township Board at 6 pm; Followed with Park Commission Meeting
February 12	Town Hall Room	6 pm work session; 7 pm televised regular mtg
March 12	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
April 9	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
May 14	Town Hall Room	6 pm work session; 7 pm televised regular mtg
June 11	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
July 9	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
August 13	Town Hall Room	6 pm work session; 7 pm televised regular mtg
September 10	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
October 8	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting
November 12	Town Hall Room	6 pm work session; 7 pm televised regular mtg
December 10	Service Center	6:30 pm regular meeting

2. The Park Commission has set a schedule to meet on the second Tuesday of the month; except in January, when it will meet after the joint meeting on January 15.
3. The Park Commission meetings will be televised on a quarterly basis (February, May, August and November) with a work session (non-televised) at 6 pm followed by a televised regular meeting at 7 pm in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building. On the non-televised meeting months, the Park Commission

meetings will be held at 6:30 pm at the Meridian Service Center or at another location within the community.

4. The above meetings shall be held in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, (517) 853-4000; Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI 48840 (517) 853-4600 or at another location within the community.
5. Work Sessions and Special Meetings of the Park Commission may be called pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
6. Regular meetings may be canceled, recessed or postponed by members of the Park Commission pursuant to the statute thereto appertaining.
7. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township, and a copy of this resolution shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

Resolution passed.

B. Election of Officers and Appointments for 2019

Chair opens the floor for nominations for Chair.

Commissioner Lick moved, TO NOMINATE MICHEAL MCDONALD AS CHAIR.
Commission Stephens seconded.

Commissioner McDonald accepted the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair closed the floor for nominations for Chair.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

Motion passed.

Chair opens the floor for nomination for Vice Chair.

Chair McDonald moved, TO NOMINATE AMANDA LICK AS VICE CHAIR.
Commissioner Stephens seconded.

Commissioner Lick accepted the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair closed the floor for nominations for Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael
McDonald

NAYS: None

Motion passed unanimously

Chair opens the floor for nomination for Land Preservation Advisory Board
Representative.

Commissioner Lick, TO NOMINATE MARK STEPHENS AS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD. Commissioner Schaetzl seconded.

Commissioner Stephens accepted the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations, Chair closed the floor for nominations for
Representative to the Land Preservation Advisory Board.

Roll Call Vote:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael
McDonald

NAYS: None

Motion passed unanimously.

9. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

10. OTHER MATTERS AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Chair McDonald shared information regarding Senate Bill 1258 and 1259 an “opt out” vs the
current “opt in” proposal to the Recreation Passport Program when renewing license plates.
This would also increase grants to local municipalities from 10% to 15%.

Commissioner Stephens moved TO SUPPORT SENATE BILL 1258 AND 1259 AS WRITTEN ON
December 11, 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Schaetzl.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

- A. Next Park Commission Meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 in **Administrative Conference Room following Joint Meeting with Township Board**
- B. Event Calendar:
 - 1. December 21: Howl at the Moon at the Harris Nature Center
 - 2. January 26: Winter Wonderland at the Harris Nature Center
 - 3. January 27: Polar Bear 5K Race
- C. Meridian Farmers' Market:
 - 1. Winter Market: – December-April; first and third Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm

11. CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Schaetzl moved, THAT THE PARK COMMISSION GO INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PROPERTY CONSIDERATION. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission entered into closed session at 8:52 pm.

Commissioner Schaetzl moved, FOR THE PARK COMMISSION RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. Seconded by Commissioner Wisinski.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS: Amanda Lick; Annika Schaetzl; Mark Stephen; Courtney Wisinski, Michael McDonald

NAYS: None

Motion passed.

The Park Commission returned to open session at 8:58 pm.

Commissioner Stephens moved, FOR STAFF TO SUCH ACTION AS DISCUSSED DURING CLOSED SESSION. Seconded by Commissioner Wisinski.

VOICE VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McDonald adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

13. NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 15, 2019**, following the joint meeting with the Township Board and other boards and commissions in the Administrative Conference Room, Meridian Municipal Building.

Park Commission Meeting

January 15, 2019

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

Robin Faust

From: Jane <picketfence1903@att.net>
Sent: Friday, December 14, 2018 12:13 AM
To: jgretrs@aol.com; lrbrogren@yahoo.com; roxnor@aol.com; evangel6@comcast.net; Renee Tierney; Meridian Historical Village; bbbrogren@yahoo.com; austinm@msu.edu; Holly Cordill; elainecv@outlook.com; LuAnn Maisner; Robin Faust; Deborah Guthrie
Subject: An award for the Village Chapel
Attachments: IMG_0946.JPG; IMG_0947.JPG

Hi all,

I attended the December meeting of the Lansing Bridal Association last night (Thursday, 12/13) to get packets, etc. for the January Bridal Show. They had a dinner and an award ceremony for the best and runner-ups in several categories. Please see the attached photos of the award given to the Meridian Historical Village for the 2018 Best Business for Wedding Venues. The runner-up was the Grand Ledge Opera House Wedding Chapel.

The Opera House is beautiful, but doesn't have the natural beauty of being surrounded by a Village. The rating comments received focused on the beautiful chapel in an extraordinarily beautiful setting. It takes a lot of love and devotion by many to provide such a pristine venue for a wedding.

Jane R



Best in Business

2018

Meridian Historical Village





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 17, 2018

CONTACT: Jane Rose, Executive Director of Meridian Historical Village
517.347.7300 | meridianhistoricalvillage@gmail.com

Meridian Historical Village Wins 2018 Best Business for Wedding Venues
Village Chapel Recognized by Lansing Bridal Association

Meridian Township, MI – On December 13th the Lansing Bridal Association awarded the Meridian Historical Village with the “2018 Best Business for Wedding Venues” Award.

Weddings are offered in the Meridian Historical Village Chapel and at the Gazebo. The award was given based on the natural setting of the Village in Central Park.

“If you are looking for a beautiful setting what would be better than a Meridian Township Park with a Village and a pond?” said Jane Rose, Executive Director of the Meridian Historical Village.

The Village Chapel was built in 2008 and is a replica of the 1870 Okemos Community Church. It offers seating up to 100 people, heating for year-round weddings, a bridal changing suite, restrooms and is handicap accessible.

“The Friends of Historic Meridian would like to thank the Township Park Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department for their hard work in keeping up the village grounds as well as the Meridian Garden Club for their countless hours of making the village a beautiful landscape,” said Rose.

To check wedding availability dates, book a tour or for more information on the Meridian Historical Village visit meridianhistoricalvillage.org or call 517.347.7300.

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The community of Meridian Township is in close proximity to the Michigan State Capitol and Michigan State University. The Township serves the community through exceptional services, beneficial amenities and an outstanding quality of life. It is a welcoming community that celebrates quality education, recreation and lifestyles.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 17, 2018

CONTACT: LeRoy Harvey, Environmental Programs Coordinator
517.853.4466 | harvey@meridian.mi.us

Township Christmas Tree Disposal Begins December 26th
Residents Provided Options to Recycle Holiday Decor

Meridian Township, MI – Meridian Township will be accepting Christmas trees for disposal from December 26th to January 31st in Nancy Moore Park (1960 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett). Trees may be dropped off at no charge.

Trees should be free of:

- Wire
- Metal Bracing
- Nails
- Plastic Bags

*Wreaths will not be accepted

Trees can also be recycled at the Meridian Township Recycling Center (5976 E. Lake Drive, Haslett). Fees may apply:

- \$5 for standard 6 foot tree
- \$10 for larger trees
- No lights, metal, wire or decorations
- \$5 for artificial trees

For more information contact the Green Meridian team at recycle@meridian.mi.us or by calling 517.853.4466.

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A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2019

CONTACT: LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Director
517.853.4604 | maisner@meridian.mi.us

Meridian Township Park Commission Looks to Fill Vacancy
Commissioner Wisinski Elected By Board to Township Trustee

Meridian Township, MI – The Meridian Park Commission is seeking interested individuals to serve on its publicly elected five-member board. The opening has become available due to its former member, Courtney Wisinski being elected by the Township Board to fill a vacancy on the Board.

The Park Commission is a policy-making board responsible for the policies and management of the 904-acre Meridian Township park system. Those interested in applying for the vacancy must be a Township resident and at least 18 years of age.

Applicants are encouraged to complete a [Public Service Application form](#) available at meridian.mi.us with an attached resume and cover letter. Questions may be directed to LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Director at maisner@meridian.mi.us or 517.719.7805. Application deadline is February 1, 2019.

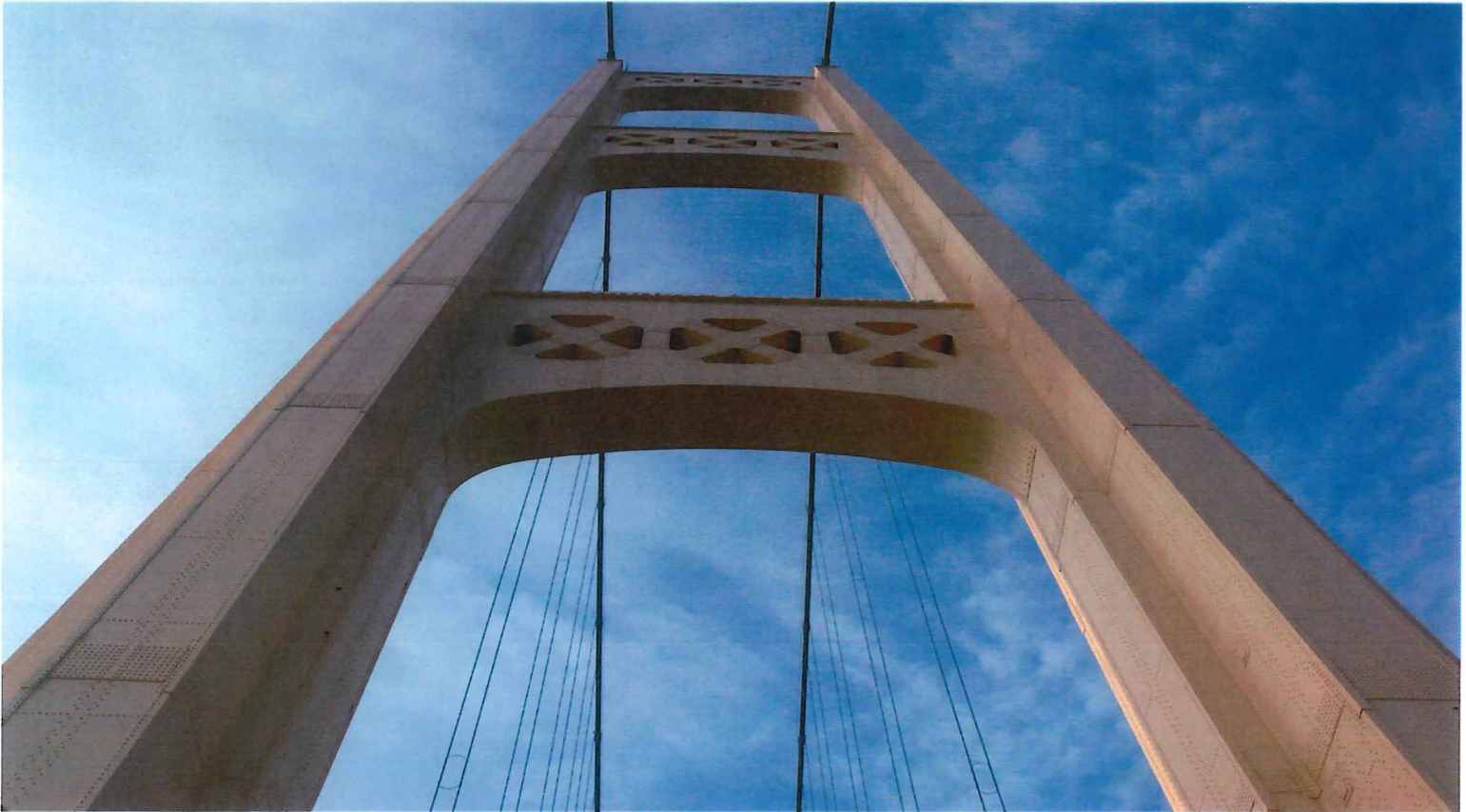
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Support the Harris Nature Center on your next big adventure!

Mackinac Bridge Tower Adventure Auction



Package includes...



Two Tickets to **Climb the North Tower**
One night for two at the **Grand Hotel**
Shepler's Ferry rides to Mackinac Island
Carriage tour of Mackinac Island

For package details, visit hncfoundation.org

Auction is **ON-LINE** and **LIVE** from

Noon Saturday, January 26, 2019 to Noon Friday, February 8, 2019

www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/mackinac-bridge-tower-adventure-6403

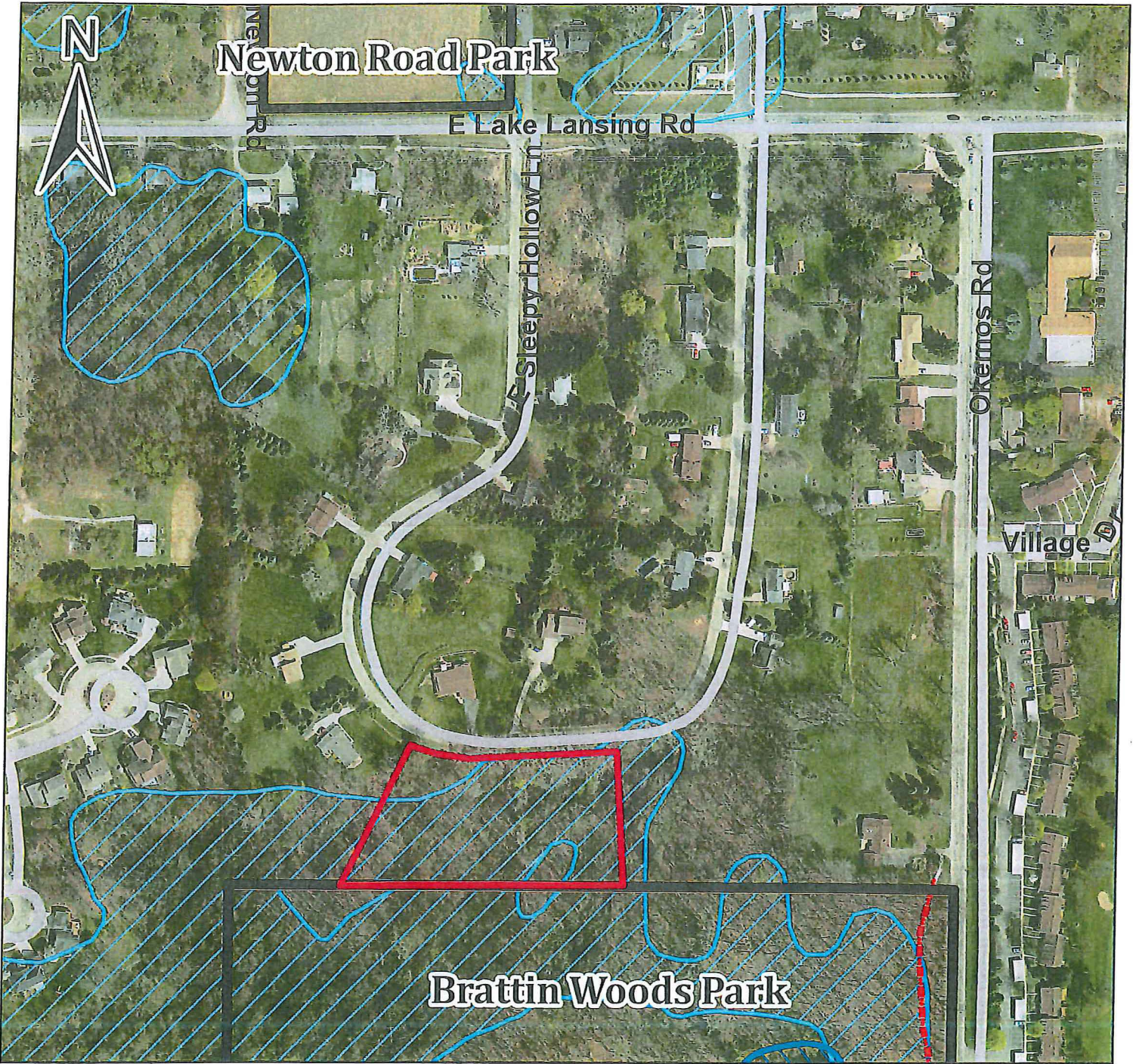


PARK COMMISSION
January 15, 2019


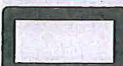


8. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Parcel #33-02-02-09-201-013 Sleepy Hollow – Refer for Section 61 Review

Potential Donation



Legend

-  Potential Donation - 2.1 acres
-  Park Boundary
-  Wetland
-  Roads

