



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN  
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Meridian Service Center, Haslett MI  
Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 6 PM

PRESENT: Board Members: James Kielbaso; Yu Man Lee; Steve Thomas  
ABSENT: Mark Stephens, Dan Opsommer, Jamie Hiller  
STAFF: Emma Campbell, Stewardship Coordinator  
OTHER: Coe Emmons, Lake Lansing County Park, Park Manager

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

BOARD CHAIR KIELBASO MOVED TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:08 PM.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA**

Chair Kielbaso asks to move item 6)B to 5)D, in order to allow Coe Emmons to leave the meeting early.

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO AMMEND AGENDA.** Seconded by Board Member Lee.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

**3. APPROVE AUGUST 11, 2020 MINUTES**

Chair Kielbaso amended agenda item #F, line A. to read, "Chair Kielbaso adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm. Seconded by Board Member Hiller."

**BOARD MEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 11, 2020 MINUTES AS AMENDED.** Seconded by Board Member Lee.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS - NONE**

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Foster-Couse Preserve

1. Come to a decision on proposed trail maintenance and the allowance of bicycles

**BOARD MEMBER LEE MOVED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING DUE TO ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS.** Seconded by Board Member Thomas.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

B. 10-Year Stewardship Plan

1. Discuss ideas and proposed revisions from Board Members

**BOARD MEMBER LEE MOVED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING DUE TO ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS.** Seconded by Board Member Thomas.

**Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board**

**September 9, 2020**

Page 2 of 3

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

C. Meridian Conservation Corps

1. Debrief on program launch, future partnerships, HOA outreach
  - a. Partnership with Tri-County Regional Planning
  - b. Staff Member Campbell discusses presentations with Okemos-Haslett Kiwanis Club, Environmental Commission, as well as partnering with the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission on 'Adopt-a-Drain' program and well-head protection areas.
  - c. Staff Member Campbell reports that launch of first four programs has gone smoothly and volunteers continue to sign up and attend Stewardship Workdays.

D. Lake Lansing Park North Boardwalk and Path Improvements

1. Park Manager Coe Emmons presents boardwalk and path improvements to take place at Lake Lansing North (project outline in memo).
2. Questions from Board Member Lee:
  - a. There is concern over proximity of path to important vernal pools – what time of year will the construction take place? Can we utilize boardwalks in those areas to minimize impact on vernal pools?
3. Questions from Board Member Thomas:
  - a. Are there any new pathways being added in this project? No. They are all existing pathways and boardwalks that will be improved. This project included 1.3 miles of trail improvements out of the 6 miles of trails total.
  - b. Are there alternatives to use besides crushed limestone? There is concern that this could alter the pH of the soil over time and long-term effect plant species.
4. Questions from Chair Kielbaso:
  - a. Are there any funds required on our end? No. Ingham County Parks is only asking for our permission to move forward with the project. Land preservation funds could be used for additional improvements in areas proximal to vernal pools.
5. Park Manager Emmons will take unanswered questions back to his team and reply soon.

**BOARD MEMBER LEE MOVED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING DUE TO ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS.** Seconded by Board Member Thomas.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

E. Lake Lansing South

1. Derek Perry guidance in pike spawning area; input for management plan

**BOARD MEMBER LEE MOVED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING DUE TO ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS.** Seconded by Board Member Thomas.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

F. Wetland mitigation project at Central Meridian Uplands (site visit after regular meeting)

1. Site visit after regular meeting revealed that there may not be room in Central

## Minutes – Land Preservation Advisory Board

September 9, 2020

Page 3 of 3

Meridian Uplands to mitigate wetland for the required area. Land bordering the privately owned wetland on the SE end of the property is the most suitable just from a site observation. More in-depth surveying will need to be completed before moving forward with this area as a candidate.

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution supporting the ballot proposal to amend the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- B. Lake Lansing Park North Boardwalk and Path Improvements (Moved to line 5)D
  1. Memo from Ingham County Parks

### 7. STAFF REPORT

- A. Stewardship Coordinator
- B. Stewardship Workdays
  2. Lake Lansing North: Staff Member Campbell reports a successful workday carefully removing sparse invasive species from a large area of Lake Lansing North. There were 6 volunteers present along with Jim Hewitt, Steve Thomas.
  3. Ted Black Woods: Staff Member Campbell reports a successful workday removing larger patches of honeysuckle, autumn olive and Japanese barberry from Ted Black Woods with a total of 6 volunteers.

### 8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC - NONE

### 9. OTHER MATTERS AND BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS - NONE

### 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Land Preservation Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2020, 6 pm, Meridian Service Center

### 11. ADJOURNMENT

**CHAIR KIELBASO MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.** Seconded by Board Member Lee.

**VOICE VOTE:** Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.