



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION
June 13, 2017



WORK SESSION - 6 PM
(salmon)

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Marshall Park Playground – resident meeting
4. Park Commissioner Application Review
5. Towner Road Park - Pavilion Sponsorship
6. Park Project Review/Discussion – Central Park Master Plan
7. Comments
8. Adjournment

REGULAR MEETING – 7 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment
 - Park Commission Candidate Introductions
4. Presentations (goldenrod)
 - a. Eagle Scout Project – Paul Fedorowicz, Gaga Ball Pit in North Meridian Road Park
 - b. Park Trail Maps Update– Kati Adams, Senior Parks Naturalist
 - c. Love a Park Day/Stewardship Report – Kelsey Dillon, Stewardship Coordinator
5. Commissioner Reports and Comments
6. Approval of Minutes (blue)
 - a. March 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. April 11, 2017 Work Session Minutes
7. Communications (tan)
8. Director’s Report

9. New Business (pink)
 - a. Eagle Scout Project – North Meridian Road Park Gaga Ball Pit
 - b. Commissioner Baker Resignation
 - c. Commissioner Recommendation

10. Other Business (cherry)

11. Discussion Items (lilac)

12. Final Comments

13. Announcements
 - a. Park Commission Next Meeting – Tuesday, July 11, 2017
 - b. Farmers’ Market, Wednesdays and Saturdays: July – October, 8 am-2 pm; Central Park
 - c. Harris Nature Center Friend BBQ, Wednesday, June 14, 6 pm
 - d. 175th Celebration – Fun in the Sun Day at Lake Lansing Park South, Friday, June 16, 4-10 pm
 - e. Meridian Arts and Crafts Market, Sunday, June 25, 11 am – 4 pm, Central Park Pavilion
 - f. Celebrate Meridian Independence Day Celebration, Saturday, July 1, 11 am – 11 pm, Central Park
 - g. Harris Nature Center Birthday Celebration, Saturday, July 22
 - Activities and Cake from 10 am – 2 pm (open to public)
 - Turtle Toast Gala from 5-8 pm (tickets required)

14. Public Comment

15. Closed Session

16. Adjournment

All comments limited to 3 minutes, unless prior approval for additional time for good cause is obtained from the Supervisor.
Appointment of Supervisor Pro Tem and/ or Temporary Clerk if necessary.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall



Re: June 13 Meeting

WORK SESSION ITEMS



Re: June 13 Meeting - Work Session Items

#3. Marshall Park Playground

Earlier this year, residents who live near Marshall Park contacted me to express their dismay with the current playground and their desire to see improvements made to the park. I have invited them to the work session to share in person, their concerns and ideas.







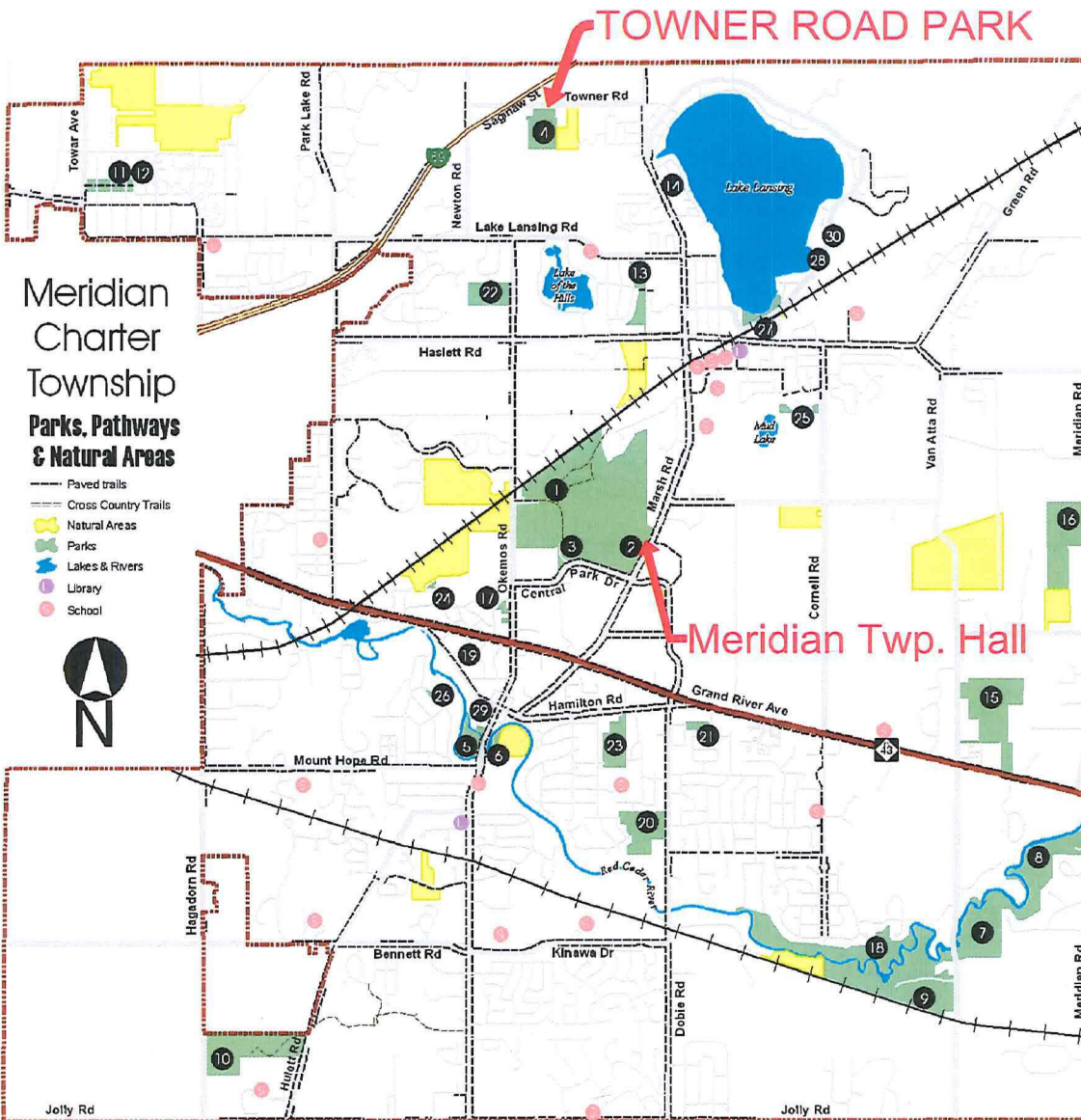


Re: June 13 Meeting – Work Session Items

#5. Towner Road Park Pavilion

In 2005, the Park Commission acquired the Applegate Driving Range from Ron Applegate for the purpose of constructing a sports park to better serve residents in the northern portion of our community. The purchase price was \$427,000.

Now that construction has begun, former owner, Ron Applegate has expressed interest in having his name attached to the park in some manner. I look forward to discussing possible options for consideration during the work session meeting.



**Meridian
Charter
Township
Parks, Pathways
& Natural Areas**

- Paved trails
- Cross Country Trails
- Natural Areas
- Parks
- Lakes & Rivers
- Library
- School



TOWNER ROAD PARK

Meridian Twp. Hall

Meridian Township Parks

517 853 4600

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Nancy Moore Park | 14 Marshall Park |
| •Parks and Recreation Office | 15 Van Atta Woods |
| 2 Central Park | 16 North Meridian Rd. Park |
| •Townhall Building | 17 Ottawa Hills Park |
| •Public Safety Building | 18 Red Cedar Natural Area |
| •Meridian Historical Village | 19 Cedar Bend Hights |
| •Nokomis Learning Center | 20 Sander Farm |
| •Farmers' Market Pavillion | Preserved Natural Area |
| 3 Central Park South | 21 Forest Hills Natural Area |
| 4 Towner Road Park | 22 Bratfin Woods |
| 5 Wanch Park | 23 Tacoma Hills Park |
| 6 Ferguson Park | 24 Schriener Park |
| 7 Harris Nature Center | 25 Orlando Park |
| 8 Eastgate Park | 26 Indian Hills Park |
| 9 Legg Park | 27 Lake Lansing Marsh |
| 10 Hartick Park | 28 Spengler Marsh |
| 11 Snell-Towar Rec Center | 29 Meridian Activity Center |
| 12 Towar Park | 30 Recycling Drop-off Center |
| 13 Hillbrook Park | |

Meridian Township Natural Areas

What are Natural Areas?

Natural areas are undeveloped parcels of land such as woodlands, wetlands and prairies. These areas are considered ecologically sensitive and provide important habitat for plants and wildlife.

What is the Land Preservation Program?

Meridian Township's Land Preservation Program was established in 2000 to acquire, preserve, and protect natural areas throughout the township that have unique or special natural features.

Where are the Natural Areas?

There are over 600 acres of natural areas located throughout the township. These Natural Areas are open to the public and some of them contain pathways that are excellent for walking, cross country skiing, or bird watching. See the map for the exact locations.

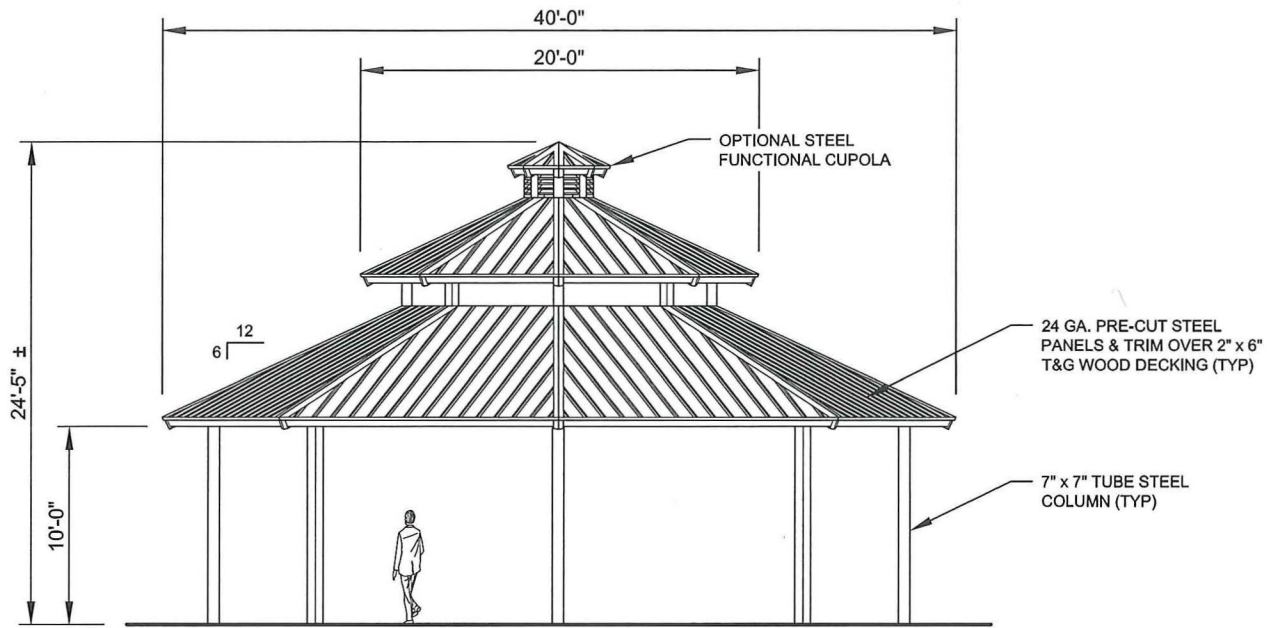
How can I help?

Get involved by joining us in our conservation efforts! We are always seeking volunteers to act as citizen stewards.

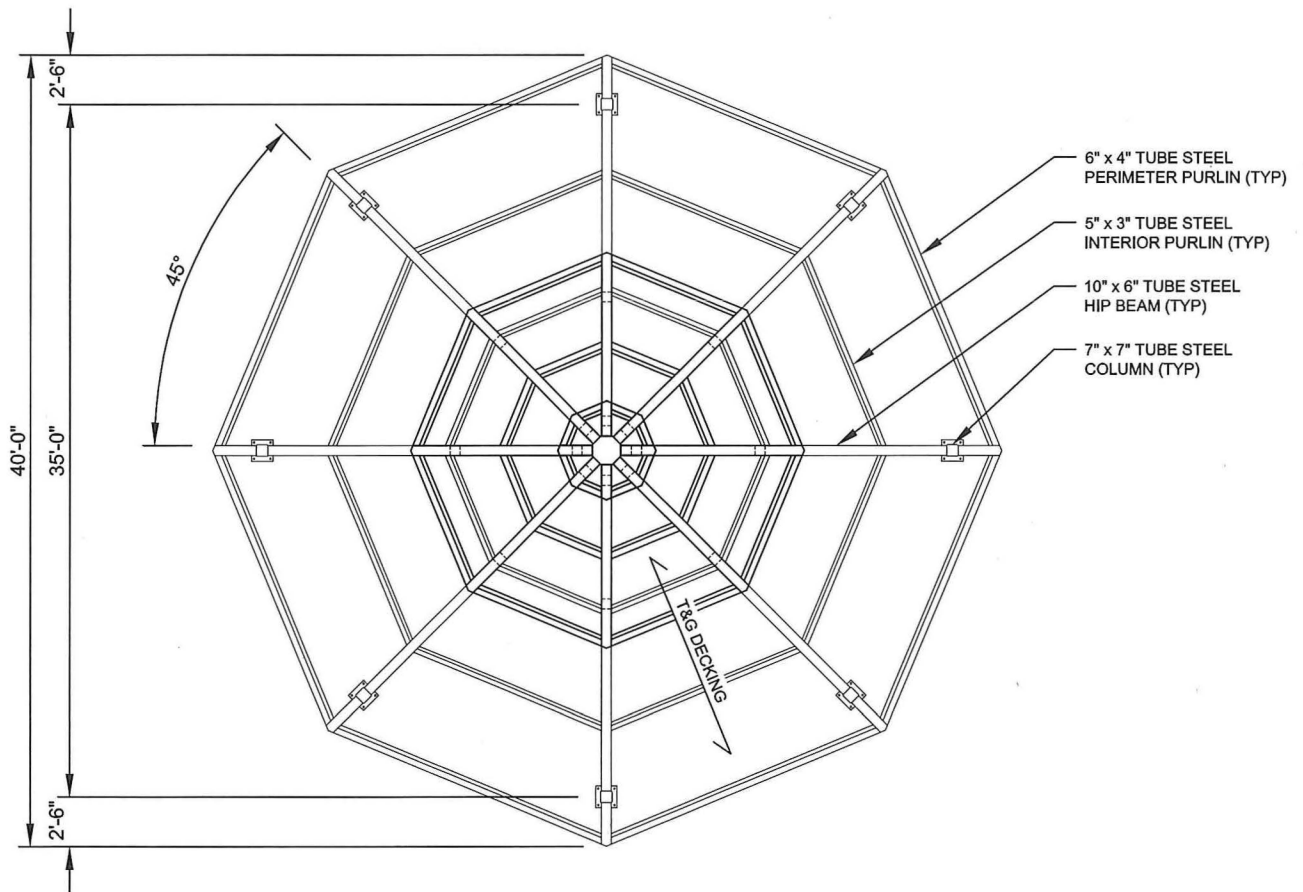
Please contact Jane Greenway to learn more about volunteer opportunities, 853-4610 or greenway@meridian.mi.us

Additional information on the Land Preservation Program may be found in the Township News and Park Information section of this guide

www.twp.meridian.mi.us



ELEVATION
SCALE: NTS



FRAMING PLAN
SCALE: NTS



11800 East 9 Mile Road
Warren, MI 48089
Office: (586) 486-1088
Fax: (586) 754-9130
Toll Free: (800) 657-6118
Email: info@coverworx.net
www.CoverWorx.net

Steelworx Octagonal Shelter w/ Vented Top - 40'

Model: OC-40-SW-VT-612-TG-10E-CP

DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

Quotation

Date	Quote Number
11/22/2016	85804

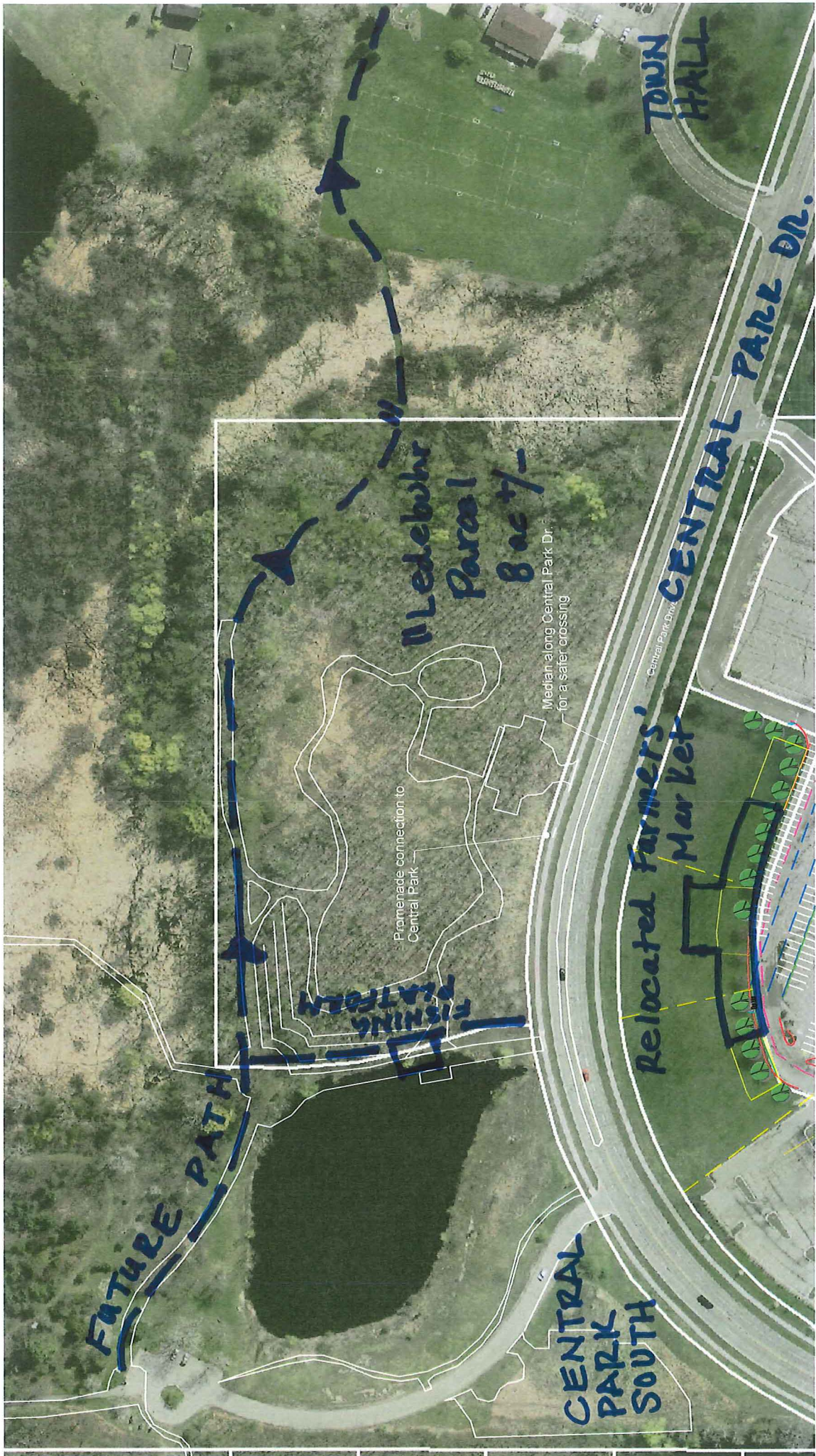
Sold To Charter Township of Meridian Accounts Payable 5151 Marsh Road Okemos, MI 48864		Ship To Meridian Charter Twp Towner Rd. Park 2055 Towner Road Haslett, MI 48840		
		County	Ingham	
Rep	Project	Type	Ship Contact/Number	P.O. No.
TCB	2016/11 Towner Rd Park Coverworx	Municipality	Jane	
Qty	Item	Description	Unit Price	Total
1	Coverworx	TOWNER ROAD PARK COVERWORX PAVILION #OC-40-SW-VT Steelworx Octagon, 40', per Coverworx specs 8'0" EAVE Height 6:12 Pitch VENTED TOP Polyester Powder Coated Framework 24 Ga MultiRib Metal Roofing Standard Overhead Lattice Both Tiers (at 8' eave and Vented Top) Hand Rails (on six of the sides, two sides left open for entrances/exits)	37,896.40	37,896.40T
1	Coverworx	OPTIONAL - MI Eng Seals Footings and Calcs	1,050.00	1,050.00T
1	Freight	Shipping and Handling Charges: Shipping Charges are estimated and are subject to actual shipping charges incurred at time of shipment.	1,245.00	1,245.00T
		NOTES: Pricing is for supply only and is valid for 60 days. Please allow 8-10 weeks for delivery after final design drawing approvals.		
			Subtotal	\$40,191.40
			Sales Tax (6.0%)	\$2,411.48
			Total	\$42,602.88



Re: June 13 Meeting – Work Session Items

#6. Park Project Review/Discussion – Central Park Master Plan

I look forward to discussing and updating you on the following projects: Farmers' Market Relocation project to Meridian Mall; covered basketball/ice rink; and dog park, as they relate to the Central Park Master Plan.



FUTURE PATH

FISHING PLATFORM

Proposed connection to Central Park

Medebeer Parcel
8 ac +/-

Median along Central Park Dr. for a safer crossing

Relocated Farmers Market

TOWN HALL

CENTRAL PARK DR.

CENTRAL PARK SOUTH

CENTRAL PARK ↑ **NORTH**



Re: June 13 Meeting - #6 Approval of Minutes

- a. March 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. April 11, 2017 Work Session Minutes

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners Baker, Lick (arrived 6:45pm), McDonald, Schaetzl, Stephens

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Agenda item #3 was removed from the agenda.

COMMISSIONER STEPHENS MOVED, COMMISSIONER SCHAETZL SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Voice vote. Approved unanimously.

3. **Marshall Park Playground**

This item was removed from the agenda and will be added to May 9, 2017 agenda

4. **Farmers' Market Relocation Update**

As part of the Central Park Master Plan implementation, Director Maisner reported on the progress of relocating the Farmers' Market to the Meridian Mall parking lot. Groups and organizations such as the Okemos and Haslett Kiwanis Clubs, Capital Region Community Foundation, Consumers Energy Foundation, Meridian Economic Development Corporation have expressed interest cost sharing as well as CBP Properties. Details to follow soon.

5. **Universal Access Playground Project**

Fundraising efforts are being considered for building a boundless playground in Central Park. A large donor is being sought to fund a majority of the playground.

6. **Capital Improvement Program (CIP) 2018-2023**

Director Maisner shared that the Park millage funds generate approximately \$1,000,000 annually for the next nine years. General operating expense for parks is approximately \$700,000/per year which leaves \$300,000 for improvements and renovations to park facilities. Based on recent grant awards, it was recommended that the following projects received funding for 2018: Restroom and Gateway Footbridge in Meridian Historical Village - \$150,000; Central Meridian Regional Trail Connector \$127,500; sculpture Garden clearing

in Central Park– \$25,000; Farmers’ Market Relocation Project \$25,000. Total: \$327,500. Project planning for future years will be discussed at the May 9 Work Session.

7. **Sculpture**

Development of the proposed sculpture garden in Central Park has the opportunity to incorporate a combination of professional art down to art pieces from elementary school children. There may be a sculpture created by Rick Luke from Luke Landscaping that could serve as the “anchor” for our project. Further discussions are needed to determine the future home of this two-story sculpture.

8. **Other**

The Meridian Downtown Development Authority donated three ceramic tile “disco fish” to be installed at Wonch Park. Staff is currently having them renovated for a target re-dedication date of May 31 during the Senior Health and Fitness Day event.

9. **Comments**

None

10. **Adjournment**

Hearing no objections, Chair McDonald adjourned 7:40 pm.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners Baker, Lick, McDonald, Schaetzel, Stephens

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner; Parks and Land Management
Coordinator Jane Greenway; Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant II Robin
Faust

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

2. Presentations

a. Friend of the Park Ceremony

The Park Commission recognized the 2016 Friends of the Park volunteers:

Haslett Beautification Association—Planted and maintained the Marshall Park and Haslett green spaces

Meridian Garden Club—Planted and maintained gardens in the Historical Village, the gardens in front of the Municipal Building and Claire Twohy Memorial Garden in Central Park; donated and planted an Arbor Day tree in the Village near the pond with a plaque;; broke ground for the Plant It Pink Garden

Layne Cameron—Provided stewardship activities in the Red Cedar Natural Area and Meridian Riverfront Park

Martha Hentz/Chris Buck Family—Donated and planted flowers at Hartrick Park around flagpole and sign and trash pick-up

Steve DeBrabander—Cleared and maintained trails in Brattin Woods Park

Eckhart Dersch—Provided reports on Ferguson, Wonch, Central Park, Meridian Riverfront Park, and North Meridian Road Park identifying maintenance needs

Eagle Scout Clayton Carmichael—Constructed boardwalk in North Meridian Road Park

Eagle Scout Robert McQuaid—Constructed concrete slab and privacy fence around the recycling area at the Harris Nature Center

Eagle Scout Gage VanOrder—Constructed handicap accessible overlook in Ted Black Woods

Love A Park Day, April 23—Nancy Moore – Haslett Scout Troop #265, Roger and Nancy Smith, and neighbors; Hillbrook Park – Haslett Kiwanis Club, Bobby Dubyne, neighbors and

Park Commissioner Phil Deschaine; Harris Nature Center – Okemos Kiwanis Club, Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club, Treasurer Julie Brixie, Meridian Democrats; Hartrick Park – Martha Hentz and Chris Buck; Sander Farm – Larry Hennessy; Forest Hills Natural Area – Forest Hills Neighborhood Association

Ellen Passage—Maintained Paul Peterson Memorial at Nancy Moore Park

Larry Hennessey—Cleaned and monitored the bluebird boxes in Sander Farm Preserved Natural Area and Tacoma Hills Natural Area

Forest Hills HOA—Cleaned Forest Hills Natural Area

Bennett Woods Elementary—120 students planted a Monarch Way Station at Hartrick Park and also removed the invasive species, Garlic Mustard

Chippewa Middle School—Hartrick Park: 75 students grew flowers in their greenhouse and planted them in the Monarch Garden; students also mulched, weeded and cleaned up park. Ferguson Park: students planted native, flowering trees

Dave Reicosky & Julie Taliber—Helped with the initial planting and maintained the Monarch Way Station at Hartrick Park throughout the summer

Arlene Friedland—Bench donation in memory of Judge Irvin J Friedland to be installed on pathway between Park Lake Road and Okemos Road

Jennifer & Tom Taylor—\$1,000 donation toward mural in memory of Sandra Machtel and \$2,000 donation toward the Doggie Playground in Central Park

Mid-Michigan Republican Women’s Club—Donated tree and plaque in memory of Virginia White to be planted in the Meridian Historical Village

Lansing Oar and Paddle Club—Continued stewardship of the Red Cedar River.

Maria Ibarra—Planted mums and spread mulch at Ferguson Park and Okemos Library

Shirley Smith—Planted mums and spread mulch at Wonch Park

Steve Thomas & Sower Woods Neighbors—Regularly maintained Sower Woods Land Preserve by removing invasive species and planting native forbs

Frank Hatfield & Sylvan Glen Neighbors—Removed invasive Autumn Olive from Red Cedar Glen Land Preserve; Lisa and Phil Bonney, Kay Trosko, Margaret Frankhauser, Gerald and Barb Zuker, Larry Robbins, Margo Smith, and the Holland Family

Murphy Elementary School & GRAND Learning Network—Davis Foster Seed Ball Project: 90 5th grade students enhanced the grassland at Davis Foster by creating native seed balls

Towar Woods Preserve: Cleared invasive plants, planted trees, conducted activities to reduce deer damage to trees and cleaned up trash: Dave Caszatt, Donald Dickman, Nick Sanchez, Sandy Davis, Bobbie Davis Cathie and Max Lindquist, Dave Wearsch, Jim Kielbaso, Margo Smith, Frank Hatfield, Rick Loftus, Matt, Frank and Charlotte Jones, Haslett Scout Troop 265, Mary and Adriana Flores, David Dietz, Mary Fielding, Mark and Paula Frantz,

Hector, Paul, and Rick

Leslie Kuhn and Jim Hewitt—Treated invasive Phragmites and Japanese Knotweed across the township; Mapping, permitting, owner contact and treatments

Deer Management Program—Aaron Rustad, Alan Franklin, Andrew Taylor, Austin Cole, Ben Cummings, Billy Haskins, Brian Watts, Bruce Bussing, Cam Haskins, Casey Carnahan, Chad Cannon, Chad Houck, Charles Otlewski, Christopher Wilcox, Colan Adams, Dan Smith, Dave Hendersen, Glenn Thomas, Jack Shull, James Hurst Jr., Jay Graham, Jeff Neilson, Jeffrey Speer, Jeremy Kapalla, Jonathon Mayes, Justin Cook, Ken Phinney, Kenneth Plaga, Kent Brainbridge, Kim Emery, Kirk Schalau, Kyle Cook, Larry Harb, Layne Cameron, Lee Colony, Margaret Delong, Marvin Johansen, Matthew Cuthbert, Matthew Delong, Matthew Foreman, Matthew Prinz, Matthew Solit, Matthew Wesener, Max Miller, Michael Ellis, Michael McDonald, Michael Mead, Michael Pemble, Michael Reilly, Mike Kingsley, Mike Marinez, Nicholas Hallenbeck, Nicholas Jagan, Ray Nachreiner, Robbie Pairolero, Robert Alexander, Robert Fortino, Roger Cook, Ryan Brzak, Ryan Holem, Scott, Davis, Scott Goldammer, Scott Vercruysse, Steve Potvin, Steven Busch, Stephen Moore, Thomas Forton, Thomas Porter, Thomas Taylor, Timothy Swartz, Tom Cannon, Trevor Arnold, Zachary Archibald

Gene Wasserman—Maintenance, monitoring and reporting of Bluebird boxes in Meridian Riverfront Park and Hartrick Park

Patrick & Michelle Allen—Geocache liaisons for the parks – monitoring caches that have been placed in the parks

Georganne Withey—Fitness Over-50 Program Coordinator at the Meridian Mall

MSU Educating Student Athletic Trainers In Medicine (ESTIM) —Meridian Township Family Winter Sports Weekend Polar Bear 5K Race on January 24, 2016

Kiwanis Club of Okemos—Solicited gift cards from local businesses for the HNC Foundation and \$400 to Youth Recreation Sponsorship Fund

Kelly Colflesh—Assisted with maintenance around the Central Park pond to improve fishing access and provided assistance with annual fishing events

Robert and Nancy Smith—Trails and pathways trash removal

Brian Van Order (Michigan Demolition and Excavation, Inc.) —Contributions of time, expertise, equipment for many park projects

Joe Pennoni (Rapid Tree Removal)—Contributions of time, expertise, equipment for many park projects

Harris Nature Center Foundation—Fundraising efforts for the Harris Nature Center (Jim Buscetta; June Hicks; Barb Kissling; Julie Moore; Patty Robbins; Nora Thompson; Roxanne Truhn; Helen & Howard Tanner)

Friends of Historic Meridian—Outstanding efforts toward growth and sustainability of the Meridian Historical Village and for providing meaningful and educational programs

and community events for youth and families; (Jane Rose, Executive Director)

Meridian Senior Center Advisory Board—Provide direction and program support for the Meridian Senior Center (Peggy Frisch/President; Jack Whitmyer/Vice President; Betsey Bricker; Richard Fox; Gen Healy; Carol Rousch; John Wills)

Edgewood Village—2016 Towar Summer Playground Program (\$1,000)

Fireworks Celebration —Meijer - \$2,000 (Terry Cole, Cindy Nunn, Chris Wilson/Okemos Store); Meridian Plumbing - \$1,000 (Craig Phillipich); The Harkness Law Firm PLLC - \$1,000 (Cullen Harkness); Culvers Butterburgers & Frozen Custard - \$1,00 (Cory Chavala); Eastside Tax and Accounting, LLC - \$250 (Thomas Johnson); Okemos Animal Hospital - \$250 (Nydia Alfonso); Ingham County Medical Care Facility and Rehabilitation Center - \$250 (Karen Webster)

Brian Beauchine—Youth Recreation Sponsorship Program (\$407)

Consumers Energy—Donated \$1,000 for trees as part of their Right Tree Right Place Program

Commission returned to the regular meeting at 8 pm.

3. Approval of Agenda

Amend the following to read:

- Item #5, Public Hearing, a. Grant Applications: 1 – Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center
- Item #10, New Business, a. Resolution to Support 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

COMMISSIONER LICK MOVED, COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Public Hearing

a. 2017 Grant Applications:

1. **Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center (HNC)**

- a) Chair declares public hearing open at 8:04 pm
- b) Staff presents project overview

Director Maisner presented an overview of the grant application process, grant opportunities, applications are due April 1 and awards are granted in December. If funded, the project would not be built until 2019. Due to the number of children attending summer camps, the Nature Center rents a large tent every year to provide additional educational space. HNC is becoming a destination location and the addition of the pavilion would complement the other elements

offered along the Red Cedar River including the overlook and canoe launch and at youth nature exploration area.

Coordinator Greenway described the Accessible Pavilion project as follows:

- The shelter building will be fully accessible
- Size is approximately 30'x44'
- Located in the vicinity of the Harris Nature Center building, in the approximate location of the existing pole barn
- Would create a shelter to assist with expanding the environmental educational programs
- Would provide a vital amenity along the Red Cedar Water Trail
- Has a total project cost of \$100,000
- Has a proposed 50% local match from the Park Millage
- Will be applying to the Natural Resource Trust Fund

- c) Staff acknowledge received items of communications:
- Advertisement of the public hearing in the local Towne Courier Newspaper on March 5 and March 12

- d) Public comment

None

- e) Commissioner comments:

- Appreciate being able to offer an amenity along the Red Cedar Water Trail
- There will be electricity inside pavilion and sensor lights on the pavilion
- This pavilion would be an additional element to existing HNC amenities
- Wayfinding signage along the Red Cedar River would be a future project for the Red Cedar Water Trail
- Project elements include: shelter, accessible path, electricity, suggested maybe adding USB plugs
- The proposed shelter will be designed to fit in with the natural environment
- Future additions could include interpretative displays with animal calls.
- Reviewed the local match amount; any costs over the submitted project cost of \$100,000 would be the responsibility of the Township.

- f) Chair declared public hearing closed at 8:29 pm.

2. **Riverside Accessible Waterless Restroom at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center**

- a) Chair declared public hearing open at 8:30 pm.

- b) Coordinator Greenway described the Accessible Waterless Restroom project as follows:

- The proposed project is supported by park visitors including children and parents attending HNC summer camps
- A restroom building has been highly requested for this area of the park in parks and recreation surveys
- It is a vital amenity for the area

- The total project cost is \$100,000
 - Submitting application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - Will have a 50% local match from the Park Millage
 - Will be waterless composting – environmentally friendly
- c) Staff acknowledge received items of communications
- Advertisement of the public hearing in the local Towne Courier Newspaper on March 5 and March 12
- d) Public comment
- None
- e) Commissioners comments:
- Security of building; will be very visible from parking area, the site is open at dawn and closed at dusk by the Township Police Department
 - Will be a great feature to add along with the proposed accessible pavilion
 - There is a need for an outside restroom due to the high number of visitors when the Nature Center building is open and closed, especially for school children during the school year and the summer camps
 - An outside restroom has been in the master plan since the Harris Nature Center was first development
 - Meridian Riverfront park is opened at dawn and closed at dusk by township police
- f) Chair declared public hearing closed at 8:44 pm.

6. Commissioner Reports and Comments

Commissioners thanked staff for preparing wonderful Friends of the Park event.

7. Approval of Minutes

- a. February 14, 2017 Work Session Meeting Minutes
- b. February 14, 2017 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONER SCHAETZL MOVED, COMMISSIONER STEPHENS SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 14, 2017 MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

8. Communications

A. Items to/from the Public

None

B. Commission Information

1. Introduction to Vernal Pools, Saturday, March 25, 2017

C. Staff Inquiries/Response

Director Maisner spoke about the article that appeared in the Lansing State Journal and in the Towne Courier about the park projects for 2017 and how the emphasis of the

article was supposed to focus on how well Meridian Township has been able to leverage their local park millage to obtain nearly 2,000,000 grant funding.

D. Distributed at meeting

1. Towne Courier: March 5 and March 12 advertisement for Public Hearing on 2017 Grant Submissions: pavilion and waterless restroom building in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

COMMISSIONER STEPHENS MOVED, COMMISSIONER LICK SECONDED, TO ACCEPT AND PLACE THE ITEMS OF COMMUNICATION ON FILE. Voice vote. Motion passed.

9. Director's Report

No report

10. New Business

a. Resolution of Support for 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Pavilion at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Baker and supported by Stephens:

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 75% of the total project cost funded by the Natural Resources Trust Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for \$100,000 of improvements to Meridian Riverfront Park consisting of an accessible pavilion and sidewalks to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the Central Park Master Plan and in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2016-2021 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, park development and improvements are supported by Township Board Policy and 2017 Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 14, 2017; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for development of a universally accessible pavilion in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center with a total project cost of \$100,000. Fifty (50%) percent local match in the amount of \$50,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$50,000) funded by the MNRTF grant.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Annika Schaetzl, Mark Stephens, Michael McDonald, Richard Baker, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

The resolution passed.

b. Resolution of Support for 2017 Grant Application - Riverside Accessible Waterless Restroom at Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Schaetzl.

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the development and acquisition of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have up to 50% of the total project cost funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund program; and

WHEREAS, the Park Commission is interested leveraging local Park Millage Funds by obtaining supplemental grant funding for park projects whenever possible; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township has prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for \$100,000 of improvements to Meridian Riverfront Park consisting of an accessible waterless restroom to improve and expand recreation opportunities and accessibility for visitors of all abilities; and

WHEREAS, this project is identified and supported in the Central Park Master Plan and in the 2017-2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2016-2021 Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Township Board and Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, park development and improvements are supported by Township Board Policy and 2017 Goals and Objectives; and

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 14, 2017; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PARK COMMISSION OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, as follows:

To support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Land and Water Conservation Fund for development of a universally accessible waterless restroom in Meridian Riverfront Park/Harris Nature Center with a total project cost of \$100,000. Fifty (50%) percent local match in the amount of \$50,000 will be funded by the Park Millage, with the remaining fifty (50%) percent (\$50,000) funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Annika Schaetzl, Mark Stephens, Michael McDonald, Richard Baker, Amanda Lick

NAYS: None

The resolution passed.

c. Nekoma Drain Easement Approval – Hillbrook Park

Director Maisner stated the Ingham County Drain Office has been in discussions with the Park Commission since late 2015 regarding the necessary drain improvements to the Nemoke Drain through Hillbrook Park. The Drain Office staff has worked together with the Commission to clarify the drain easement location and the impacts it may have on the park's trails.

The drain easement has taken the Commission's concerns into consideration and has been reviewed and approved by the Township's attorney. The Drain Office will replace two trees for every one they need to remove in the park; plant native vegetation in areas that will be disturbed during the construction phase; and construct a footbridge over the drain to maintain the integrity of the existing trail system in the park.

COMMISSIONER LICK MOVED, COMMISSIONER BAKER SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE ATTACHED "DRAIN EASEMENT FOR NEMOKA DRAIN-HILLBROOK PARK" WITH THE NEMOKA DRAIN DRAINAGE DISTRICT AS REQUESTED BY THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

Voice vote. Motion passed.

11. Final Comments

None

12. Announcements

- a. Park Commission Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 11, 2017
- b. Farmers' Market –Saturdays, 10 am-2 pm, JC Penny corridor (March 18, April 1 & 15)
- c. Introduction to Vernal Pools, Saturday, March 25, 2017, 10 – 11 am, Town Hall Room, Meridian Municipal Building

13. Public Comment

None

14. Adjournment

COMMISSIONER BAKER MOVED, COMMISSIONER STEPHENS SECONDED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.



Re: June 13 Meeting

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS



To: Park Commissioners
From: 
LuAnn Maisner, CPRP, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Date: June 7, 2017
Re: Resignation of Richard Baker

In May, Commissioner Richard Baker submitted his resignation from the Park Commission as he no longer resides in our community. He has served on the Commission since elected in November, 2016. His letter of resignation is attached.

The following motion is offered:

MOVE TO ACCEPT RICHARD BAKER'S LETTER OF RESIGNATION FROM PARK COMMISSION DATED MAY 22, 2017 WITH REGRETS.

LuAnn Maisner

From: Richard Baker [<mailto:rjbthunder@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, May 22, 2017 10:44 AM

To: LuAnn Maisner

Subject: Re: Resignation notice

LuAnne, thank you for the reminder. I have not confirmed that I was moving until the middle of last week so I delayed sending in the letter of resignation. However, please accept this as a formal request to accept my resignation from the board because I am moving out of the jurisdiction.

I have enjoyed the brief stint on the board and had looked forward to being an active member. I enjoyed working with the board members as well as you and will miss it. Best of luck in implementing all the projects.

Sincerely;
Richard Baker



bTo: Park Commissioners
From: 
LuAnn Maisner, CPRP, Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Date: June 9, 2017
Re: Park Commission Appointment Recommendation

On May 22, 2017, Richard Baker submitted his letter of resignation from the Park Commission. A notice announcing the vacancy was placed in the Towne Courier with a request for interested persons to submit an Application for Public Service to the Clerk's office. The following eight persons expressed interested. Their applications and resumes are attached for your review. This appointment is valid until the next general election which may be in November 2017, august 2018 or November 2018 at which time the position will be filled by popular vote.

Karen Barrett
Charles Given
Charles Lawler
Robert Lovell
Amy Salisbury
Dr. Steven M Smith
Courtney Wisinski
Jullian Winn

Motion for Consideration:

MOVE TO RECOMMEND THE APPOINTMENT OF _____ TO THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PARK COMMISSION TO FILL THE SEAT VACATED BY RICHARD BAKER.