

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PARK COMMISSION WORK SESSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016

PRESENT: Commissioners Deschaine (arrived at 6:45 pm), Jaramillo, McDonald, Stephens

ABSENT: Commissioner Wilson

STAFF: Parks and Recreation Director LuAnn Maisner, Administrative Assistant II Robin Faust

1. Call Meeting to Order

Acting Chair McDonald called the work session to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

COMMISSIONER STEPHENS MOVED, COMMISSIONER JARAMILLO SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE WORK SESSION AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

3. CIP and 2017 Budget

Director Maisner distributed and summarized the 2017-2022 CIP Summary and status of the 2016 Park Millage Fund.

Director Maisner reported the following:

- Recommend moving the Hillbrook Park tennis court renovation forward to 2017 from 2016; moving Towner Road Park Development from 2016 to 2017 in the CIP Program.
- Summarized the proposed budget amendment for the Hillbrook Park Tennis Court renovations for \$100,000 to renovate the tennis courts, improve the sidewalk and access into the courts (as outlined in staff memorandum dated June 9, 2016)
- A Park Millage financial summary was included in the packet.

Discussion:

- The base of the courts will be pulverized, compacted and topped with 3.5" of new asphalt. There will be new net posts, basketball system and perimeter fencing.
- The courts will be stripped for tennis courts and pickle ball.
- These are the only public courts in our park system and are very popular with residents
- The poor condition of these courts warrants immediate action.

4. Other

a. Township Pathway Master Plan

Director Maisner reviewed the proposed recommendation to the Township Pathway Master Plan. All of the Park Commission's recommendations were incorporated into the recommendations.

b. Towner Road Park Project Update

Director Maisner reported the project is under site plan review with the Township's Planning staff and the wetland use permit application will be reviewed by the Environmental Commission on July 6. Staff is working with the contractor on development of the bid documents with the plan to go out to bid by the end of the year and begin construction spring of 2017. Director Maisner reported the Township Board did designate wetland "c" as "essential". Plans include taking this low quality wetland and improve and enhance it to become a unique feature of the park.

c. Park Projects Update

Director Maisner reported Parks and Land Management Coordinator Greenway and Land Stewardship Assistant Kelsey Dillon will be at a future Park Commission meeting to offer an update of park and land management projects.

d. Ingham County Parks Trails Millage Update

Director Maisner reported the Ingham County Parks Board has approved upgrades and improvements to bridge and trails around the Township which includes Hartrick Park, Central Park South, Nancy Moore Park by the ballfields and near Nemoke Trail and on Okemos Road. There is no local match required for these projects.

e. Dedication of Storybook Trail in Orlando Park

Director Maisner reported on the Capital Area District Library/Haslett Branch dedication of the storybook trail in Orlando Park. The ceremony was attended by over three classrooms of students. The stories are interchangeable and each story and each board suggests an activity to move people to the next board...

f. Hillbrook Park update

Director Maisner showed the Commissioners the proposed play structure for Hillbrook Park which includes many climbing options. It will be installed within the next three weeks.

g. Wonch Park Update

Director Maisner reported the pavilion and concrete floor have been installed but a handful of cracks have appeared. Staff is meeting with the installer to discuss options. Installation of the water and electricity is on hold until the concrete situation has been decided. The outdoor fitness equipment has arrived and will be installed the week of June 20.

h. 2017 Budget

Director Maisner reported work on the budget will begin soon with the lone capital project being development of Towner Road Park.

i. Hillbrook Park Ingham County Drain Improvement Project

Paul Pratt reported the Drain Commissioner's Office has been working with DEQ to obtain the permit to proceed with the drain improvement project. This part of the process has been slow and DEQ has asked for further clarification. The project will require an expansion of the existing easement to 130' to allow for daylight draining, installation of the proposed footbridge to connect with existing path.

Discussion:

- Tree replacement will be a 2:1 ratio, anticipate planting approximately 75 trees; the trees placement will be reviewed with staff and some can be placed around the new play structure
- There will be year round flow with the ground water flow with 6' cut
- Staff will work with Commissioner's Office when removing trees to allow for additional dead trees in Park to be removed at the same time
- Suggested using the spoils to enhance pathway between Benson Hills and Montebello, to improve the low areas

5. Comments

None

6. Adjournment

Hearing no objection, Acting Chair McDonald adjourned the work session at 7:03 pm.