

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

APPROVED

**December 13, 2021
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864-1198
853-4000, Town Hall Room, 7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT: Chair Hendrickson, Commissioners McConnell, Cordill, Shrewsbury, Richards,
Snyder, Trezise, Blumer, Premoe**

ABSENT:

**STAFF: Director of Community Planning & Development Timothy Schmitt, Senior
Planner Brian Shorkey, Information Technology Director Stephen Gebes,
Multimedia Producer Samantha Diehl**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Hendrickson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Chair Hendrickson called the roll of the Planning Commission.

All members are present and attending virtually from their homes in Meridian Township.

The Planning Commission took a moment of silence in remembrance for those effected by the storms that took place over the weekend.

3. PUBLIC REMARKS

Chair Hendrickson opened public remarks at 7:02 pm.

NONE

Chair Hendrickson closed public remarks at 7:03 pm.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Commissioner Blumer moved to approve the agenda.
Seconded by Commissioner Cordill.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Trezise moved to approve the minutes of November 8, 2021 Planning Commission Regular meeting with a friendly amendment. Seconded by Commissioner McConnell.

Commissioner McConnell noted a correction under item 8, "The applicant replied that any private vehicle under 10 feet would be permitted, including motorcycles". The word "motorcycles" should be replaced with "two-wheeled vehicles."

Chair Hendrickson accepted the friendly amendment.

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

6. COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. 2022 Master Plan and Ordinance updates

Director Schmitt outlined the Township's 2022 Master Plan and proposed Ordinance Updates for the next year.

B. 2022 Planning Commission goals

Chair Hendrickson reviewed the Planning Commission's 2021 goals. He stated the MUPUD Ordinance update was completed, and significant progress was made on the sign Ordinance. He further stated Form Based Code, and the Future Land Use Map were not completed but would be worked on in 2022.

The Planning Commission discussed their 2022 goals with Director Schmitt including:

- Looking at existing Land Use Map for any potential conflicts with the Future Land Use Map
- Greater coordination with Village of Okemos and Haslett Development Projects
- Completing the 2022 Master Plan
- Quality of life Ordinance updates

It was agreed that Staff would put language together for formal adoption at the Planning Commission's next meeting.

10. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board update.

Director Schmitt reported the Township Board will meet on Tuesday December 14th, 2021 and will have the final discussion on the Consumers Credit Union Building. The board has approved

the final rezoning of the Jo Don Dr. property and adopted the final version of the MUPUD Ordinance.

B. Liaison reports.

Chair Hendrickson:

- Attended Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on December 8th where Trader Joe's variance request for more parking was approved. The Zoning Board of Appeals also approved several variances for a property in the Lake Lansing Overlay District.
- Attended Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on November 10th for variances on a property on Dawn Ave. The Zoning Board of Appeals did not approve a variance for a fence higher than 6 feet, but did approve a sight triangle variance.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals is in need of new members. Residents can apply via the township website at:

<https://www.meridian.mi.us/Home/Components/FormBuilder/FormBuilder/ab645b1f6ad340fa8df777891a5f6bbe/1365>

Commissioner Blumer:

- Attended most recent downtown Development Authority where they announced they are debt free.

Commissioner McConnell:

- Attended Environmental Commission meeting December 1st where the commission developed their 2022 goals and discussed how successful the township has been on meeting its target on energy portions of climate sustainability plans, specifically in solar power and working towards electrification of the townships motor vehicle fleet. Going forward the Environmental Commission is turning its focus on storm water management.

Commissioner Blumer asked if electrification of motor vehicles included emergency vehicles.

Director Schmitt stated at this time emergency vehicles are not included in the electrification plan because there are not commercial viable alternatives yet.

Commissioner Cordill:

- The Corridor Improvement Authority met November 17th where a presentation was given by the County Drain Commission describing the history of drainage in the area. The Okemos Bridge near Mt. Hope will be replaced beginning in March 2022. Shortly after work will begin to raise the road bed on Grand River Rd. Three pedestrian cross walks on Grand River Rd. have been approved by the Michigan Department of Transportation, one at the campus apartment complex near the Park Lake bridge, one at Meijer and one at Dusty's. The Corridor Improvement Authority is returning to their monthly meeting schedule. They reviewed their 2022 goals and are considering a Tax Increment Financing district.

11. PROJECT UPDATES

A. New Applications

1. MUPUD 21-15-024 – Elevation Rephasing (Minor amendment)

B. Site Plans Received

1. SPR 21-16-15 – Elevation Phase 3

C. Site Plans Approved

Chair Hendrickson cancelled the December 20th meeting due to lack of business. There were no objections.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

Chair Hendrickson Opened Public Remarks at 8:13 pm.

NONE

Chair Hendrickson Closed Public Remarks at 8:16 pm.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**Commissioner McConnell Moved to Adjourn.
Seconded by Commissioner Premoe.**

VOICE VOTE: Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Hendrickson adjourned the regular meeting at 8:16 p.m.