



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MERIDIAN PRIDE EVENT

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on Tuesday March 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., Local Time.

PRESENT: Supervisor Jackson, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wilson, and Wisinski

ABSENT: None

The following resolution was offered by Treasurer Deschaine and supported by Trustee Hendrickson.

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian welcomes and encourages diversity, equity and inclusion within our community; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Meridian is a welcoming place where people, families, and institutions thrive and the contributions of all persons are celebrated and valued; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Meridian joined Welcoming Michigan in September, 2015, supporting its goals of promoting a welcoming environment for all individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee has a goal in 2023 to develop a new cultural event to expand diverse opportunities throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee recognizes the June 28, 1969 Stonewall uprising in New York City sparked the gay rights movement; and

WHEREAS, while there has been remarkable progress since then towards acceptance and equality, members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning, intersex, asexual and more (PRIDE) community continue to face discrimination, intolerance, and hate; and

WHEREAS, the Charter Township of Meridian works to build an inclusive community where we can live openly without discrimination and enjoy equal rights, personal autonomy, and freedom of expression and association; and

WHEREAS, we must commit to supporting and accepting PRIDE individuals, in particular our youth, who compared to their peers are far more likely to experience violence and bullying at school; to suffer from depression; to struggle with substance use; and to have attempted suicide; and

WHEREAS, we must remain vigilant in deterring oppression and discrimination against people on the basis of sex, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, celebrating Pride Month raises awareness and provides support and advocacy for the PRIDE community, and is an opportunity to become educated, engage in dialogue, strengthen alliances, and build understanding, and

WHEREAS, by protecting the rights of every individual, we enhance and strengthen the value of everyone throughout our entire society; and

WHEREAS, we affirm our support for PRIDE residents in our community and stand with them to protect their civil rights and their ability to live openly, equally and without fear; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian on this 7th day of March 2023, recognizes and supports the PRIDE community; and supports celebrating and building a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance with a Meridian PRIDE event on August 26, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Charter Township of Meridian is directed to publish the resolution in the form in which it was adopted.

ADOPTED: YEAS: Supervisor Jackson, Treasurer Deschaine, Clerk Guthrie,

Trustees Hendrickson, Sundland, Wilson, and Wisinski

NAYS: NONE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 7th day of March 2023.



Deborah Guthrie, Clerk
Charter Township of Meridian