

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA
Wednesday, June 5, 2013
Town Hall Room
Meridian Municipal Building
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864**

WorkSession

1. Call the work session to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Approval of the work session agenda
3. Review of the minutes of the May 1, 2013 work session/regular meeting
4. Public remarks
5. Adjournment

Regular Meeting

1. Call the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the regular meeting agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the May 1, 2013, work session/regular meeting
4. Public remarks
5. Chair's Report
6. Communications/staff report
7. Other Business
 - a. Cornell Road
 - b. Consider rescheduling the July meeting from the 3rd
8. Study groups/liaison reports
9. Public remarks
10. Adjournment

WORK SESSION

PRESENT: Chair Jackson and Commissioners Moran, Scherbarth, and Searl.

ABSENT: Commissioners Thomas, Donahue, and Kielbaso and Student Commissioners Martell and Stanley.

STAFF

PRESENT: Richard F. Brown, Jr., AICP, Associate Planner

OTHERS

PRESENT: Raleigh Harmes and Neal Bulby.

1. **CALL WORK SESSION TO ORDER**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE WORK SESSION AGENDA**

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Scherbarth to approve the work session agenda. Supported by Commissioner Moran. Approved 4-0. .

3. **REVIEW OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 17, 2013 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING**

No corrections were noted.

4. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

Raleigh Harmes summarized his concerns about the proposed Cornell Road project and there was a general discussion amongst the commissioners and with Mr. Harmes.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Work session adjourned without objection at 7:00 p.m.

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
Meridian Municipal Building
May 1, 2013 - draft**

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chair Jackson and Commissioners Moran, Scherbarth, and Searl.

ABSENT: Commissioners Thomas, Donahue, and Kielbaso and Student Commissioners Martell and Stanley.

STAFF

PRESENT: Richard F. Brown, Jr., AICP, CBSP Associate Planner

OTHERS

PRESENT: John Sarver and Neal Bulby.

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Searl to approve the agenda. Supported by Commissioner Moran. Approved 4-0.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL 17, 2013 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Moran to approve the minutes with corrections. Supported by Commissioner Searl. Approved 4-0.

4. GREEN THEMES PRESENTATION ON "SOLAR & WIND ENERGY IN MICHIGAN" BY JOHN SARVER OF THE GREAT LAKES RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Neal Bulby commented on the proposed Cornell Road project.

6. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Jackson had no report.

9. COMMUNICATIONS/STAFF REPORT

Associate Planner Brown summarized the following:

- 2013 Ride of Silence reminder for May 15th
- Semi-monthly
- May is National Bike to Work Month and American Wetlands Month
- National bike to Work Day is May 17th

- Commissioner Donahue and the East Lansing Food Co-op each received Tri-County Environmental Leadership Awards

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Lengthy discussion about the impacts of the Cornell Road project on the environment and how best to respond.

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Searl to forward the attached comments to the Township Board. Supported by Commissioner Scherbarth. Approved 4-0.

11. **STUDY GROUPS/LIAISON REPORTS**

None

12. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

None

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

- **MOTION** by Commissioner Moran to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Supported by Commissioner Searl. Approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Township Board
FROM: Environmental Commission
DATE: May 2, 2013
RE: Cornell Road

At its May 1, 2013, regular meeting, the Environmental Commission approved the following comments.

Given its duty to respond to citizen concerns brought to the Commission, the Meridian Township Environmental Commission has significant concerns about the Cornell Road project, as proposed, based on the following:

- *The cutting of such a large amount of vegetation;*
- *The impacts on several wetlands;*
- *The impacts to wildlife and their habitat; and*
- *Not enough time has been given to allow due consideration of the environmental impacts or to properly process permits, given the project's provided timetable.*

Cc: Ingham County Department of Roads & Transportation
Holly Vickers, MDEQ
Ray Severy, PE

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