

REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Chair Jackson and Commissioners Thomas, Finley, Donahue Scherbarth, and Bagdasarian.

ABSENT: Commissioner Kielbaso

STAFF

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

OTHERS

PRESENT: Julie Powers – Director of Mid-MEAC (Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council)

1. **CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION by Commissioner Thomas to approve the agenda. SUPPORTED by Commissioner Scherbarth. **Approved 6-0.**

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 14, 2011, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

MOTION by Commissioner Scherbarth to approve the minutes. SUPPORTED by Commissioner Thomas. **Approved 6-0.**

4. **WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER KATHY DONAHUE**

Chair Jackson welcomed Kathy Donahue to the Environmental Commission.

5. **GREEN THEMES PRESENTATION BY JULIE POWERS, DIRECTOR OF THE MID-MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COUNCIL (MID-MEAC) ON THE LANSING WALKABILITY AUDIT**

Director Powers summarized the genesis and status of the walkability audit that is taking place through a partnership with AARP of Michigan. They are looking for volunteers for 2012 and anyone is welcome to participate. Lansing is the first city in the nation to do this and it is hoped other communities in Mid-Michigan will join in upon completion of Lansing's study.

6. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Jackson and other commissioners summarized the discussion that took place at the January 3rd Township meeting.

General discussion about members of the commission being informal liaisons to other boards and commissions. Each member agreed to fill such a role. Vice-Chair Thomas –

Economic Development; Commissioner Scherbarth – Planning Commission; Commissioner Finley – HOM-TV; and Commissioners Donahue and Bagdasarian – Parks.

7. **COMMUNICATIONS/STAFF REPORT**

Associate Planner Brown summarized the following:

- Environmental Stewardship Award nominations submittal period is underway.
- Mid-MEAC newsletter
- Please check the draft contact information.
- Summarized the Complete Streets Forum that took place on January 12th.

8. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

None

9. **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR LISE SCHOOLS**

RESOLUTION OFFERED by Commissioner Scherbarth and SUPPORTED by Commissioner Thomas. **Approved 6-0.**

10. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2012**

MOTION by Commissioner Scherbarth to approve the existing slate of officers from 2011. SUPPORTED by Commissioner Donahue. No other nominations received. **Approved 6-0.**

Since Commissioner Kielbaso was not present, the appointment of a representative to the Land Preservation Advisory Board was postponed to the February meeting.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Scherbarth inquired about the small Diesel spill that they had been notified about. Staff noted it had been cleaned up promptly. Brief discussion also took place about the deer culling and the status of the Environmental Consultant's report on the dog park.

12. **STUDY GROUPS/LIAISON REPORTS**

None

13. **PUBLIC REMARKS**

None

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Commissioner Bagdasarian to adjourn the Regular Meeting. SUPPORTED by Commissioner Thomas. **Approved 6-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.