

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2013
5:30 PM – LEO'S LODGE

Members Present: Julie Brixie, Frank Hatfield, James Kielbaso, Jon Mayes, Robert Rusch,

Members Absent: Margo Smith, Mark Stephens, Steve Webster

Staff: None

Others: None

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Kielbaso called the special meeting to order at 5:36 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE MOVED, BOARD MEMBER RUSCH SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. Voice vote. Motion passed.

3. Public Comment

None

4. Amended Resolution to Authorize Grant Application for Green Road Acquisition

Board Member Brixie summarized the requirement to change the previous resolution as follows:

- At the time of the grant application, the Township was anticipating a donation from the Owner in the amount of \$50,000 and that donation was to be utilized as a large portion of the required local match.
- When a donor letter was requested for the grant submission, the donor no longer wishes to provide a donation
- Since it has been indicated that the Land Preservation Advisory Board is still interesting in moving forward with the grant acquisition application, the resolution needs to be changed to approval of a larger local match.

BOARD MEMBER BRIXIE MOVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Program was established in 2000 to protect, preserve and enhance Meridian Township's open spaces, natural features, natural habitats and water quality for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Land Preservation Advisory Board is interested in the continued improvement of Meridian Township's Land Preservation Program; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources accepts grant requests from local units of government to assist in the acquisition or development of recreation properties; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township had prepared a grant application for submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the acquisition of property located at 6269 Green Road, which will provide for the protection of land for its environmental importance and scenic beauty; and

WHEREAS, the grant request is outlined and justified in the 2011-2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan adopted by the Meridian Township Board and Park Commission, and is on file with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposed acquisition supports Township Board Policy 1.1,1; 1.1,2; and 1.3,5.

WHEREAS, this grant request was open to public review on March 13, 2013 and found to be acceptable;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, support submission of a grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for an estimated total project cost of \$160,000 for the acquisition of property at 6269 Green Road, Haslett, Michigan with the local match of 38% (consisting of an estimated \$60,800 but dependent on DNR-approved market value) from the Land Preservation Program and a grant request of \$100,000 from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Supported by Board Member Rusch

Roll Call:

AYES: Frank Hatfield, Robert Rusch, Jon Mayes, Jim Kielbaso, Julie Brixie

NAYS: None

The resolution passed

5. Other

None

6. Public Comment

None

7. Adjourn

Hearing no objections, Chair Kielbaso adjourned the meeting at 6 pm.