

**ADA TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2013 MEETING**

A regular meeting of the Open Space Preservation Advisory Board was held on Thursday, April 11, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairperson Betty Jo Crosby at the Ada Township Offices, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada, MI.

PRESENT: Dan Bergman, Betty Jo Crosby, Randy Damstra, Paul Leblanc, Elise Roe, Rick Steketee, Jeff VandenBerge

ABSENT: George Haga, Jamie Ladd

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Ferro, Planning Director

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2013 MEETING

It was moved by Leblanc, seconded by Steketee, to approve the minutes of the March 14 meeting, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

STATUS OF PROPERTY AT 7535 AND 7567 FASE ST.

Ferro reported that he met with the appraiser this morning regarding the status of the appraisals. The appraiser has conducted site visits to both properties, but has not yet completed his analysis and reports. Ferro stated they will be completed in the next two weeks. Ferro noted the fact that there have been several large walnut trees removed recently from the Fryover property, and that the tree removal appears to be limited to the area immediately surrounding the house.

UPDATE ON OTHER PROPERTIES/CANDIDATE PROPERTIES

Ferro reported there has been no activity on other projects.

VandenBerge commented that we should step up our efforts to recruit candidate properties for acquisition. Crosby stated that the Marketing Committee would pursue this.

MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS/REPORTS

Status of Calvin College Video Production Project:

Ferro and Crosby reported on the videotaped interviews they completed with the Calvin team in the last two weeks.

Report on Conservation Easement Monitoring Visit to Carl Creek Wetland Preserve:

Crosby reported on the monitoring site visit to the Carl Creek Wetland Preserve she participated in with staff from the Land Conservancy last week.

She stated there were several areas along the north Preserve boundary where there is evidence of neighbor disposal of yard waste in the Preserve, and evidence of a deer hunting "camp" along the railroad frontage of the Preserve property, including discarded beverage containers, furniture and a deer blind. Follow up efforts to post additional Preserve boundary signage, send correspondence to property owners and remove items from the Preserve property will be completed.

Schedule for Spring Preserve and Parks Stewardship Volunteer Days

It was noted that a volunteer Stewardship work day is scheduled in the morning on Tuesday, April 23 at the Carl Creek Crossing Preserve, and that Kent County Parks has scheduled the annual volunteer Garlic Mustard removal outing at Seidman Park for Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to noon.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Burton
Township Clerk
RS: jf