

**ADA TOWNSHIP
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE JULY 12, 2007 MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m., by Township Supervisor George Haga.

PRESENT: Greg Forbes, George Haga, Jamie Ladd, Matt Nygren, Bette Roberts, Mischelle Sytsma.

ABSENT: Betty Jo Crosby, Elise Roe, Randy VanDragt

STAFF PRESENT: Planning Director Jim Ferro

APPROVAL OF JUNE 14, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Roberts, seconded by Sytsma, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2007 meeting.
Motion approved unanimously.

STATUS OF FEMA GRANT FOR ACQUISITION OF 383 PETTIS AVE. PROPERTY

Ferro reported that the State has approved use of the Township Assessor's opinion of the market value of the property as the basis for making an offer on the property. We are now waiting for the State to authorize us to make an offer to the property owner.

**MDOT PROPERTY ON FORMER THORNAPPLE RIVER AND GILMORE PROPERTY –
STATUS OF TITLE**

Ferro reported that signed quit claim deeds for the former river channel property have been received from Baer and Gilmore, and we are waiting for legal counsel to obtain the same from Bruce and Lois Poppen. When these are received, we will be able to obtain clean title.

STATUS OF FOREST GLEN, INC. PROPERTY AT 5686 FOREST BEND DR.

Ferro reported on his conversation with Rick Stekettee, resident in the Forest Glen neighborhood. Rick is optimistic regarding the neighborhood's willingness to contribute to acquisition of the property. Ferro stated that Rick indicated a couple of questions have come up from neighbors, including what the Township could do with the property in the future, and whether donations could be made over more than one year.

In discussion, it was noted that the Township has accepted donations over multiple years in the past. The possibility of placing a conservation easement, held by the Land Conservancy of West Michigan, on the property that would specifically define what the Township could and couldn't do with the land was discussed.

SEIDMAN PARK STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Ferro reported that Betty Jo Crosby was finally able to obtain a Liability Waiver form from Kent County, from the Risk Management department, rather than the legal department. The Township should be able to adapt the form for its use, clearing the way for a volunteer effort this fall.

CHAMPION TREE CONTEST WITH VERGENNES TOWNSHIP

Ferro reported that some entries have come in.

NWF COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Ferro reported that Betty Jo Crosby is talking to Bob Lowry about heading up a volunteer effort for this program.

PUBLIC COMMENT:None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Deborah Ensing Millhuff, CMC
Ada Township Clerk

rs:jf