



## **Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board**

### **Regular Meeting: Monday, March 20, 2017**

The Webster Township Farmland & Open Space Preservation Board was called to order by Chairman John Westman at 6:34 pm on Monday, March 20, 2017 at the Webster Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road, Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Chair John Westman, members, Tom Bloomer, Jean Cares, Susan Cooley, Jerry Nordblom and consultant Barry Lonik. Also present were Trustee John Scharf and Ruth Thornton from the Ann Arbor Greenbelt Commission.

Members absent: none

#### **Approve Minutes**

Motion Nordblom, second Cooley to approve the open and closed session minutes of the WTFOSPB meeting of February 15, 2017 as presented. Member Cares asked that the Greenbelt report be amended to substitute the word review for simplify on the first line. Members Nordblom and Cooley agreed to an amended motion. Voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

#### **Chairman's Remarks**

None. Lonik introduced Ruth Thornton from the Ann Arbor Greenbelt Commission.

#### **Approve Agenda**

Motion Bloomer, second Cooley to approve the March 20, 2017 agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

#### **Call to Public**

Ruth Thornton presented information regarding the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). This is a federal program run through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The Greenbelt Commission is soliciting local land preservation groups, including

the Wester Township Farmland and Open Space Preservation Program, to participate in a joint grant proposal for RCPP funding. Discussion and a recommendation will be placed on the April agenda.

## **Review Bills**

Motion Nordblom, second Bloomer to recommend that the BOT approve the payment of the March invoice from Treemore Ecology and Land Services as presented. Roll call, all ayes, motion carried.

## **Reports**

### **Township Board:**

Westman reported that the BOT approved all three PDR funding recommendations as made in February. Also approved were a festival permit for St. Joseph Church, Annual Policy statement for 2017-2018 and an escrow refund to Mill Creek Outdoor Adventure. A resolution in support of invasive mute swan control failed to pass.

### **Consultant:**

Lonik reported that the County Parks Commission continues to insist upon up to four annual visits to open space easement properties. No final action on the proposed \$16,000,000 endowment.

### **Greenbelt:**

No report

## **Old Business**

### **A. Easement monitoring**

The ongoing proposal to improve the monitoring program was discussed. The new system tested this year will be used for all properties next fiscal year.

## **Closed Session**

Motion Bloomer, second Cooley to close the open session at 7:34 pm and go into closed session in order to discuss confidential applications to the PDR program.

Roll call; all ayes, motion carried.

Motion Bloomer, second Cooley to return to open session at 8:40 pm. All ayes, motion carried.

## **New Business**

**A. Motion:** Motion Westman, second Bloomer to return to the initial meeting schedule of the second Monday of the month unless changed the month before. After discussion; all ayes, motion carried. The next meeting will be on April 10, 2017.

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Call to Public**

None present.

## **Adjournment**

Motion Bloomer, second Cooley to adjourn the meeting. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

John Westman

Chair, WTFOSPB