

Charter Township of Van Buren
Environmental Commission Work Study
August 15, 2012

Chairperson Brownlee called the work study meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Present: Brownlee, DeBuck, Gibson and Tomaino. Staff present: Director Terry Carroll. There were five people in the audience.

Each of the audience members spoke about the need to dredge the canal off of Ryzner Drive on the north side of the lake. Many mentioned that they bought their property after the realtor told them that there is a regular dredging schedule for the canal so that they would have continuous lake access.

The current condition of the canal does not allow for most of the property owners to access the lake due to there being no water. There are also other concerns such as odor that causes them to request that the Township dredge the canal. One resident stated that he would be willing to pay his fair share of the dredging cost.

The Chairperson asked that staff look into this complain and provide a report for the Commission at their next meeting.

Commissioner Gibson talked about his recent experience trying to file an odor complaint. Director Carroll said that he would speak to staff about the correct procedure that should be used to take an odor complaint.

Commissioner Wilson, supported by Commissioner DeBuck, moved to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting with the spelling error in the first line corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gibson, supported by Commissioner Wilson, moved to accept the agenda with the removal of the Election of Officers item. Motion passed unanimously.

Carroll gave a brief presentation on the status of the expanded recyclable program. It was decided to have Waste Management author the letter that will be used to transmit the news of the new program, the sticker and the new recyclables flyer to every single family address in the Township.

Commissioner Wilson gave a brief synopsis of his research on the Eurasian Milfoil weevil. Much discussion followed regarding this approach to the weed problem in the lake that seems quite promising. Staff was directed to invite EnviroScience to make a presentation at the next meeting of the Environmental Commission.

Carroll passed out the flyer for the Household Hazardous Waste Day at EQ which will be held on October 27, 2012. It was decided to include this flyer in the recyclable mailing and to ask the local newspapers to carry it as a Public Service Announcement.

Commissioner Tomaino, supported by Commissioner Buck, moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Department of Development Services