

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**  
**Environmental Commission**  
**Wednesday-April 20, 2016**  
**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm in the Board Room by Chairperson Brownlee.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Brownlee, Ahamiojie, Debuck, Merritt, Wilson, Jahr

Absent Excused: Akers, Gibson

Staff: Best, Halstead

Audience: 13

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion Jahr, Seconded by Debuck to approve the agenda as presented with the exception of moving unfinished business item #1 to the end of the agenda, time permitting.

Motion Carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Chair directed that consideration of the meeting minutes of March 16, 2016 be postponed until the next regular meeting of the Commission.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1.) *Coal Tar Presentation:***

Brownlee introduced Dr. Anne LeHuray from the PCTC. LeHuray gave her presentation, which included a PowerPoint presentation and handouts, and took questions and comments from both the Commission and the audience.

**2.) *Belleville Lake Water Quality Discussion:***

Best introduced Kathleen Walsh, a resident of Van Buren Twp., who had some questions and concerns about the Huron River and Belleville Lake. Mrs. Walsh asked questions regarding the Phosphorus Reduction Implementation Plan for the Middle Huron River Watershed, the current plan for addressing algae blooms in the lake, if there was a budget for the lakefront, if there were any grants available for remediation on the lakeshore, etc. Staff and Commissioners answered Ms. Walsh's questions regarding the plan, algae bloom response and budget/grants.

Rebecca Esselman, from the Huron River Watershed Council, gave information regarding the different grants that might be available.

**3.) *Lead Containing Paint:***

Dr. Wilson brought up his concern regarding lead based paint in older housing in Van Buren Township. Public information outreach ideas were discussed.

**COMMENTS:**

The Shoreline Committee is starting to form and they are just waiting on a few more responses from interested Lakeshore residents to complete the group.

Ahamiojie announced he would be stepping down as commissioner and going back to school full-time.

Representative from Belleville High School gave report, noting that there is no longer an ecology class and it will hopefully be starting back up within the next year.

**Motion Jahr, seconded by Wilson to adjourn at 8:44 pm.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Halstead, Recording Secretary