

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN**  
**Environmental Commission**  
**Wednesday-October 19, 2016**  
**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm in the Denton Room by Chairperson Brownlee.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Brownlee, Debuck, Gibson, Merritt, Jahr

Absent Excused: Akers

Staff: Best, Halstead

Audience: 2

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion Gibson, Seconded by Debuck to approve the agenda with the revision to add 2 items; presentation on Milfoil and Election of Officers. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion Gibson, Seconded by Merritt to approve the Minutes from July 20, 2016.

Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Chairman Brownlee mentioned there or now two vacancies on the Environmental Commission. Best commented that the supervisor has received some applications, but told the members to continue to encourage more applicants.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**1. Township Map:** The Township map that was requested has now been put up in the Denton room for future meetings.

**2. Coal Tar Discussion:** The question was asked if members would want to add language to the ordinance that would address fines or penalties for not complying with the ordinance. Best had gathered other cities' and Township's Coal Tar Ordinance to look over and discuss. Deputy Director Best said he would work on putting together a draft for the Ordinance that would address registering commercial contractors, civil infractions and possibly changing the allowable PAH level to >0.1.

**3. Lakeshore Management Workgroup Update:** The Workgroup has completed their assignment in making changes to the draft Lakeshore Ordinance. The tentative date that the document will be taken to the Planning Commission is November 9, 2016. The commission requested to see a copy of the draft ordinance.

**4. Pollinators and Habitat:** The Planning Department has been looking at different ways to incorporate pollinator habitats into their planning process. Some of the main reasons for having these Pollinator pockets is to promote pollination, and increase diversity in the Township.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Presentation of Eurasian Milfoil:** Milfoil is an easily spread aquatic plant. Deputy Director Best gave a Presentation of Eurasian Milfoil which highlighted different ways to manage and control Milfoil. The cost is extremely high for all options. Educating the public of management options is a start to getting Milfoil under control.

**2. Election of Officers:** Motion Jahr, Seconded by Merritt to Re-elect Brownlee for Chairman. Motion Carried.

Motion Merritt, Seconded by Gibson to re-elect Debuck for Vice-Chairman. Motion Carried.

**COMMENTS:** This will be Board Representative Jahr's last Environmental Commission meeting he will be attending.

**Motion Gibson, seconded by Debuck to adjourn at 8:41 pm.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Halstead, Recording Secretary