



DEXTER TOWNSHIP

FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Present: Chairperson Mark Teicher; Vice-Chairperson Scott Joling; Secretary Kathy Bradbury;
Township Board Representative Laura Sanders; Marty Ruhlig; Guerin Wilkinson

Absent/excused: Gretchen Driskell

Also present: FOSP Board Consultant Barry Lonik; Pam Weber, Recording Secretary.

Audience present: Diane and Rick Monier

1. Call to Order: Chairperson Teicher called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Skipped

3. Approval of Agenda:

Motion Joling; support Wilkinson, to approve the agenda as presented for November.
Unanimous voice vote approval with Driskell absent.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Motion Sanders; support Wilkinson, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of
November 2, 2023, as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Driskell absent.

Motion Joling; support Bradbury, to approve the Closed Session minutes of
November 2, 2023 as presented.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Driskell absent.

5. Public Comment – 1st call: (non-agenda items)

Diane and Rick Monier

Ms. Monier thanked the Board and stated they are grateful to have the property preserved.
She complimented Mr. Lonik for his knowledge and invaluable assistance. They would like
to see the program grow and offered to speak to interested Township residents.

Sanders thanked them for their trust, bravery and for being the pilot project.

6. Review of Presentation to Board of Trustees Meeting on November 21, 2023:

Sanders and Driskell attended the meeting. The consensus is that all boards and committees will provide monthly reports to the Board of Trustees to keep them apprised of challenges and other important information.

7. Consultant's Report:

Lonik reported the following:

- His monthly report to the Board of Trustees will mimic his typical FOSP Project Update minus the confidential names and anything revealing.
- He briefly reviewed the spreadsheets he provided to the FOSP Board via email. The tables will be ongoing and will reflect changes such as projects closing.
- Lonik suggests the Township do another Farmland Outreach letter in 2024 citing the first closing.
- The Moniers would like a Preserved Farmland sign with the Township Logo posted on the property. An example was provided to the Board. Lonik will research costs and provide that information to the Board at which time a motion can be made to take it to the Township Supervisor.
- Lonik and Sikkenga conducted a meeting with Remy Long regarding funding sources within the City of Ann Arbor. The potential Greenbelt boundary expansion was discussed as well as water source protection (for everything that feeds Barton Pond, which would include Dexter Township and other localities). There was discourse about carbon neutrality. Lonik stated some of these things may come to fruition in the next six months.
- The State Farmland Grant deadline is January 9, 2024 and more than one application can be submitted. They will grant the money until the fund is depleted. They have approximately \$2,000,000 in funding available. Lonik is working on application submission.
- Lonik's rates are going up minimally next year. There was a brief discussion of his payment structure and whether his new rates were included in the budget.
- **Public Projects:** Monier closed on November 29th. Lonik did a press release and there was great coverage in The Sun Times paper and on-line. He also posted on several social media platforms and received many positive responses.

8. Celebration of First Closing:

Documents regarding the agenda items can be obtained at the Township Hall during normal business hours or the Townships website: www.dextertownship.org.

Discussion included waiting until after the holidays and getting input from the Moniers regarding the celebration location.

9. Committee Member Q & A: None

10. Closed Session:

Motion Teicher; support Ruhlig to move the Board into closed session under section 8 of the Open Meetings Act, to consult with our consultant regarding the potential purchase of development rights of certain properties.

Ayes: Joling, Ruhlig, Wilkinson, Bradbury, Sanders, Teicher

Nays: None

Absent: Driskell

Motion Carries.

The Board Entered Closed Session at 7:37 p.m.

Motion Wilkinson; support Joling to return to Open Public Meeting.
Unanimous voice vote approval with Driskell absent.

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:55 PM.

11. Public comment – 2nd call: None

Teicher informed the Board that Driskell was appointed as a citizen before she became a Trustee. She will be leaving the Board as Sanders is already the Trustee on the FOSP Board. An FOSP Board seat is now vacant.

12. Adjournment:

Motion Wilkinson; support Sanders to adjourn at 8:04 p.m.

Unanimous voice vote approval with Driskell absent.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bradbury, Secretary

Pam Weber, Recording Secretary

*Next meeting of the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Board is January 5, 2024.
Agenda due date is December 28, 2023*

Documents regarding the agenda items can be obtained at the Township Hall during normal business hours or the Townships website: www.dextertownship.org.

