



# DEXTER TOWNSHIP

## FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

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### REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

Thursday, April 6, 2023

7:00 PM

Present: Chairperson Mark Teicher, Vice-Chairperson Scot Joling, Secretary Kathy Bradbury, Guerin Wilkinson, Gretchen Driskell, and Marty Ruhlig.

Absent: Laura Sanders, Township Board Rep.

Also present: Barry Lonik, FOSP Board Consultant, and Janis Miller, Recording Secretary.

Audience present: None.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairperson Teicher called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited by all.

3. **Approval of the Agenda:**

*Moved by Driskell, seconded by Joling, to approve the agenda as presented.*

*All ayes. Motion carried.*

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

*Moved by Bradbury, seconded by Ruhlig, to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 2, 2023 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.*

*Moved by Wilkinson, seconded by Ruhlig, to approve the Closed Session minutes of March 2, 2023 as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.*

5. **Public Comment – 1<sup>st</sup> call:** Opened 7:08 PM. No public present to comment.

6. **By-Laws Review:**

Consultant Barry Lonik presented a draft of By-Laws used by other municipalities. As the FOSP Board members required time to study and discuss it was decided to address the By-Laws at the next meeting.

**7. Consultant's Report:**

Consultant Lonik noted:

- An invitation for Dexter Township landowners to apply for conservation easements was printed in the Sun Time News.
- There is an annual deadline for the Federal Agricultural Conservation Easement Program with no limits on the number of properties submitted, up to 50 percent of the appraised value awarded, and more money available this year due to less demand last year.
- There may be a special round of Michigan Grants, with approximately \$900,000 available with a short fifteen-day window to apply.
- The FOSP Board needs to develop a policy for monitoring and enforcement of those properties placed in conservation easements.
- Monier property update: All three family members have signed the purchase agreement; the survey has been revised to give pedestrian (monitoring) access to the property; all documents were submitted to the Washtenaw Park and Recreation Program on March 21<sup>st</sup>, with a sixty-day review; a participation agreement between Dexter Township and Washtenaw County needs to be signed; anticipation this purchase will close by the end of June 2023.

**8. Committee Member Q & A:**

Bradbury questioned whether there was a tight schedule on submitting the new applications. Consultant Lonik said there was no point in scoring properties until there was a determination whether they were properties the Board wanted to peruse.

**9. Closed Session:**

*Motion by Teicher, seconded by Bradbury, to adjourn into Closed Session.*

*Roll Call Vote: Yea – Teicher, Joling, Bradbury, Wilkinson, Driskell, and Ruhlig;*

*Nays – None; Absent – Sanders. Motion carried 6-0.*

The Board entered Closed Session at 7:27 PM.

*Motion by Wilkinson to return to Open Public Meeting. Motion seconded by Bradbury. All ayes. Motion carried.*

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:49 PM.

**10. Public comment – 2<sup>nd</sup> call: None.**

**11. Adjournment:** With no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy Bradbury, Secretary

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Janis Miller, Recording Secretary