

**Draft of the Regular Antwerp Township Planning Commission Meeting  
February 6, 2013**

**1. Call to order** - Chairperson Cronenwett called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

**2. Roll Call – Present:** Cronenwett, Daly, Tarchala, Paquin, and Mitchell.

**Absent and excused:** Derhammer and Schultz

**Also Present:** Shawn Seymour of LSL Planning, Marcy Colclough of the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission, Matt Meersman of the Van Buren Conservation District, Gary Stock of the Antwerp Township Zoning Board of Appeals, and guests.

**3. Approval of Minutes** – Motion by Mitchell, second by Tarchala to approve the minutes as presented. Abstained: Paquin. All voted in favor.

**4. Approval of Agenda** – Motion by Tarchala, second by Paquin to approve the agenda as submitted. All voted in favor.

**5. Public Hearing –**

**Antwerp Township Parks and Recreation Plan Update –**

A brief presentation was given by Shawn Seymour of LSL Planning summarizing the Parks and Recreation Plan.

**Public Comment –**

Marcy Colclough of the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission went over some of the grants available from different agencies, when their deadlines are, and their criteria. She also gave some examples of what nearby communities have had success and failure in getting done.

Matt Meersman of the Van Buren Conservation District and Gary Stock of the Antwerp Township Zoning Board of Appeals discussed some of the local features and resources that would be good to utilize. They also went over some of the nearby recreation opportunities.

Discussion by Commission members and guests

Motion by Paquin, second by Tarchala to approve the Parks and Recreation Plan and to submit it to the state for certification. All voted in favor.

**6. Public Comments on Agenda Items – none**

**7. New Business –**

A. Van Buren Conservation District: Wetlands and Water Quality

A presentation was given by Matt Meersman of the Van Buren Conservation District concerning recent research done on the Paw Paw River Watershed. He stressed information on the existing versus historical wetland acreage, functions of the wetlands and habitat loss. Antwerp Township has both the worst watershed in the area, and the second best watershed in the area.

Discussion by Commissioners and those present concerning the improvements that can be made to the existing ordinances to maintain and improve the Township's watersheds.

**9. Public Comments and Communications Concerning Items not on the Agenda –**

Heather Mitchell stated that there were two applications for the open Planning Commissioner position and they expected to make a decision before the next Planning Commission meeting.

**10. Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn by Tarchala, second by Mitchell. All voted in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anna Daly, Acting Secretary