

Minutes of the Bloomington Township Board

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. on March 12, 2026.

Board members present were Dorothy Granger, Barbara E. McKinney, and E. Sensenstein. Also present were Trustee Efrat Rosser and Deputy Trustee Lisa Myers.

AGENDA

Barbara moved to accept the agenda as presented. E. seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Barbara moved to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2026, board meeting as presented. E. seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS

Township Assistance Guidelines: The progress of the revisions was discussed. Barbara moved to approve the guidelines as presented. E. seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Monroe County Historic Preservation Board Partnership with Stout Houston Cemetery:

Efrat reminded the group about the dry-stacked stone fence at Stout Houston Cemetery, highlighting that its condition had deteriorated over time, with missing stones and overgrown vegetation. She explained that we originally sought a professional repair and received an estimate of over \$100,000 from the Dry Stone Conservancy in Kentucky for a full restoration. A subsequent request for more limited cosmetic improvements resulted in a lower estimate, which was contingent upon first removing the invasive and overgrown vegetation.

Last summer, during discussions with C&H Lawn and Landscaping about the weed removal, they mentioned that they had an employee experienced in stonework who could handle the repairs. We accepted their proposal, and the work began. However, complications arose when the materials used did not match what had been proposed, and the final result did not meet our expectations. We negotiated a reduced rate, understanding that additional work would be necessary in the future to improve the appearance of the fence.

Recently, we were contacted by Susan Snider Salmon of the Monroe County Historic Preservation Board, who expressed interest in partnering with us to develop a restoration plan. She suggested forming a volunteer committee that could be trained by the Dry Stone Conservancy and help oversee restoration efforts. Dorothy expressed interest in serving on the committee. Efrat will coordinate a meeting and provide updates as the project moves forward.

REPORTS

Trustee: Efrat announced that the SBOA audit has been completed with no findings. She expressed appreciation to Lisa, noting that the positive outcome reflects the strength of our policies, procedures, and the careful attention to detail provided by our back office. SBOA offered the option of an exit interview via email, which we accepted.

Efrat distributed the flyer for the upcoming Saturday event and reviewed key highlights. Barbara commented that the flyer makes the laundry theme feel fun.

Efrat also shared the 2025 Assistance Summary, noting that it will be posted soon on our website and Facebook page.

Efrat reported on a recent accessibility training led by Michael Shermis from the Council on Community Accessibility. The training focused on viewing accessibility from the client's perspective and ensuring compliance with federal requirements.

Efrat shared that we have been distributing dog and cat food on behalf of the Monroe County Humane Association while their facility recovers from recent tornado damage. She noted the popularity of this service, and the possibility of continuing pet food distribution beyond this temporary arrangement was discussed.

Efrat reviewed recent correspondence from Hoosier Hills Food Bank regarding anticipated reductions in commodity distributions through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Currently, TEFAP products account for approximately 50% of the food we distribute. The board discussed potential strategies to address this, including identifying additional revenue sources or alternative food supplies. Lisa reported that 219 households have utilized the pantry year-to-date.

Efrat reported that SB270 has been signed into law and asked the board to consider its interest in a potential merger should an opportunity arise. Discussion followed.

Finally, Efrat noted the increased focus on emergency preparedness within the community. She shared that Cara Escobedo serves as our representative with Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD), which is activated during large-scale emergencies. Efrat also plans to participate in the upcoming Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training.

Board: Dorothy reported on her participation in a recent event held by the League of Women Voters to discuss townships and the impact of recent legislation. Notable topics included disaster preparedness and the importance of renters' insurance. Efrat mentioned the disaster preparedness handbooks that we have been distributing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 9, 2026.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. Sensenstein", written over a horizontal line.

E. Sensenstein, Secretary