

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Action Minutes

Thursday, May 1, 2014

4:30 PM

City Hall, 301 E. Huron St., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Riseng called the meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission to order at 4:31 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron St.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Catherine Riseng, Shannon Brines, Christopher Taylor, Stephanie Buttrey, Jennifer Fike, John Ramsburgh, and Jean Cares
Absent 2 - Peter Allen, and Archer H. Christian

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Brines, that the Agenda be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, Chairperson Riseng declared the motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

(4 SPEAKERS MAXIMUM - 5 MINUTE SPEAKING TIME - SIGN UP MUST TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE MEETING BY NOTIFYING THE CHAIR OR CITY STAFF. THIS SECTION OF PUBLIC COMMENTARY IS LIMITED TO ITEMS RELATED TO THE AGENDA.)

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilmember Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Fike, that the Minutes be Approved. On a voice vote, Chairperson Riseng declared the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ginny Trocchio informed the Commission that the Agriculture Land Easement Program was accepting applications . She noted that she would be working on an application to submit before the June 6th deadline.

Ms. Trocchio referred the Commissioners to a summary she distributed that summarized new Legislation that is currently before Congress. The new legislature would offer tax incentives for charitable donation of easements made by land owners. Chairperson Riseng asked what made a farmer/landowner qualified for the incentive. Ms. Trocchio responded, stating that to be qualified the household income would have to come from at least 50% of the operation of the farm.

1. Staff Update

None.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None presented.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

1. Communication and Outreach Committee

Commissioner Buttrey provided a summary of a recent meeting of the Communication and Outreach Committee. Some of the future goals discussed were ways to communicate the mission of the Greenbelt and draft a frequently asked questions document. Ginny Trocchio noted that the City of Ann Arbor Communications staff have been invited to attend the next committee meeting to offer their assistance.

Council member Taylor asked if there was an articulated goal of the committee aside from general awareness. Commissioner Ramsburgh responded, stating that the goals discussed included public awareness among other goals. He continued stating that the committee is thinking long term with regard to Greenbelt and what will happen when the mileage expires.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY (5 MINUTE MAXIMUM SPEAKING TIME - NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SPEAKING IN THIS SECTION.)

None.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION

A motion was made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Brines, that the Commission enter into Closed session to discuss land acquisition. .. On roll call, the vote was as follows, with Chairperson Riseng declaring the motion carried.

MEETING RECONVENED

The Commission meeting reconvened at 5:15 p.m.

Motion 1 Application 2013-05

A motion was made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Ramsburgh, that the following motion be approved.

A motion was made to recommend to Council to move forward with the purchase of the development rights on the property identified in application #2013-05; recommend partnership agreement with Pittsfield Township, and allocate \$5,200 from the contributions from Cherry Republic, as match funds.

On a voice vote, the chair declared that motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Fike, seconded by Commissioner Brines, that the Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting be Adjourned. On a voice vote, Chairperson Riseng declared the motion carried.