

City of Ann Arbor

*100 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.a2gov.org*



Formal Minutes

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

4:30 PM

County Board of Commission Public Meeting Room - 220 N. Main St.

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Rubin called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the County Board of Commission Public Meeting Room, 220 North Main Street.

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Jennifer Santi Hall, Laura Rubin, Sylvia Taylor, and Carsten Hohnke
Absent 3 - Michael Garfield, Gilbert S. Omenn, and Peter Allen

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Commissioner Garfield arrived at 4:35 p.m.

Present 7 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Laura Rubin, Sylvia Taylor, and Carsten Hohnke
Absent 2 - Gilbert S. Omenn, and Peter Allen

1. **Melissa Milton-Pung – Washtenaw County Historic Preservation**

Commissioner Allen arrived at 4:39 p.m.

Melissa Milton-Pung with the Washtenaw County Historic Preservation, gave a slide presentation to the commission explaining Historic Preservation Tools and Easements. The presentation explained the importance of historic resources, the purpose of easement research as well some advantages of historic preservation easements. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Ms. Pung also provided a report from the Washtenaw County of Strategic Planning which also outlined the conservation and historic preservation easements. A copy of the report is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Present 8 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Laura Rubin, Sylvia Taylor, Peter Allen, and Carsten Hohnke

Absent 1 - Gilbert S. Omenn

2. **Karen Paul – Gerald Alcock Company**

Karen Paul, of Gerald Alcock & Company, gave an overview of the estate the real estate market. She said that the market is changing almost daily. Within the submmarket of Washtenaw County, land transfers have slowed significantly since the last quarter of 2008. The fallout of Wall Street and the automotive market have strangulated the credit markets and willing buyers and we are now relying more heavily on older data.

There are no super deals coming soon, so they have to look at other industries to gage the evaluation. She said that a stronger market for purchases would be on the east side of US-23. A lot of talented developers have moved into Superior and Ypsilanti Townships.

She concluded by stating that her perception of the market is that the area would recover eventually. Ms. Paul then answered questions from the commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Ezekiel, seconded by Commissioner Allen, that the be Approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **09-0548** Greenbelt Advisory Commission Minutes of May 1 and 13, 2009

A motion was made by Councilmember Hohnke, seconded by Commissioner Allen, that the special session Minutes of May 1 and the regular session minutes of May 13, 2009 be approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council on 7/20/2009. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **09-0686** Staff Updates

FARM AND RANCLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM (FRPP)

Ginny Trocchio said that the city has submitted four applications to the State. The total request was for \$2.2 million. There is only \$2.2 million available for the entire state of Michigan and surrounding townships have submitted request to the State as well. She would know by next whether or not the city's applications have been accepted.

STRATEGIC PLAN PRESENTATION TO CITY COUNCIL

Ms. Trocchio asked if a commissioner would like to present the Strategic Plan to City Council at one of their next meetings in July. Chairperson Rubin said that she would present the plan to city council. Commissioner Hohnke said that he would let city council know that a presentation would be coming soon.

SOUTHEAST AREA WASHTENAW COUNTY NEWSLETTER

The newsletter talked about the Washtenaw County's purchase of the new Meyer Nature Preserve area. It adds 139 acres to the Superior Greenway. A copy of the flyer is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

PRESERVE SIGNS

Ms. Trocchio said that she would be working on the signs this summer.

MAPS ON THE CITY'S WEB SITE

Commissioner Ezekeil asked that the maps on the Greenbelt's web site be updated to reflect the new shape of the greenbelt.

BID PROCESS

Commissioner Allen asked for an update on the bid process. 15 applications were received and discussions will be held on those in the closed session tonight.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None presented.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Ezekiel, seconded by Councilmember Hohnke, that the Commission enter into Closed session. On a roll call, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.:

Yeas: 8 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Ezekiel, Commissioner Garfield, Commissioner Santi Hall, Commissioner Rubin, Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Allen, and Councilmember Hohnke

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Omenn

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohnke, seconded by Commissioner Garfield, that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the chair declared the motion carried and the meeting reconvened at p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Garfield, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at p.m.

Laura Rubin, Chairperson

Anissa R. Bowden
Recording Secretary