

City of Ann Arbor

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

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

4:30 PM

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

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Rubin called the meeting to order at 4:43 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron St.

ROLL CALL

- Present** 5 - Tom Bloomer, Michael Garfield, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, and Liz Rother
- Absent** 3 - Dan Ezekiel, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Garfield, that the Agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Acting Chair declared the motion carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **Pittsfield Township Open Space and Agriculture Preservation - Mandy Grewal, Township Supervisor and Paul Montagno, Pittsfield Township Planner**

Paul Montagno, Pittsfield Township Planner, gave a slide presentation to the commission regarding, Pittsfield Township's Open Space and Agriculture Preservation. Their goals are to promote natural resources protection on a local and regional level in a planned and strategic manner; ensure development decisions support, protect and enhance the natural environments and ecosystems in the Township; encourage the protection of agricultural lands that are most productive and suited to agricultural operations, and implement policies that provide additional protection; and create connections between natural areas and protect significant view sheds. (A copy of the slide presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

- Present** 6 - Tom Bloomer, Michael Garfield, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Catherine Riseng, and Liz Rother
- Absent** 2 - Dan Ezekiel, and Carsten Hohnke

PUBLIC COMMENTARY 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

1. [11-1010](#) Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2011

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner

Rubin, that the Minutes of July 13, 2011 be approved by the Commission with changes and forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Vice-Chair declared the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Staff Update

Ginny Trocchio, of The Conservation Fund, said that Shannon Brines has shown interest in applying to the commission. He is a local farmer in Webster Township and working at the U of M as a teacher. He said that the work that the committee is doing is important and that he has been a resident of Ann Arbor since 2002 and also has a small farm out in Dexter.

Ms. Trocchio said that Salem Township has been looking at passing a PDR Ordinance and allocating some of their general fund or landfill funds to PDR. Their board did approve the PDR Ordinance and allocated \$200k a year for farmland preservation for the next 5 years. They look forward to reaching out to them and working with them in the future.

The Commission asked that the map of Salem Township be forwarded to the commission so that the commission could see what properties have been placed in their protection zone. Ms. Trocchio said she was not sure if master plans changes were made, as the ordinance was just approved last night. She said she would provide more information to the commission at a later date.

Ms. Trocchio said that they talked about the expansion of the boundaries and this would be discussed more at the next GAC meeting. She plans to contact the commission over the next month to set up a time to do a tour for anyone who wants to see some of the proposed areas to be expanded.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

1. [11-0852](#) Greenbelt Boundary

Referred to the 9/14/2011 meeting.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

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

None.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the commission enter into Closed session to discuss land acquisition. On a roll call, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion carried (The meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.):

Yeas: 6 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Garfield, Commissioner Rubin, Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Riseng, and Commissioner Rother

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Ezekiel, and Councilmember Hohnke

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Allen, that the meeting be that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the Vice Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting reconvened at 5:47 p.m.

Application No. 2010-09

A motion was made by Commissioner Rubin, seconded by Commissioner Garfield, to recommend to City Council to move forward with Application No. 2010-09, if at least 50% matching funds are secured. On a voice vote, the Vice Chair declared the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Vice Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Catherine Riseng, Vice Chair

**Anissa R. Bowden
Recording Secretary**