

City of Ann Arbor

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



Action Minutes

Wednesday, July 2, 2008

4:30 PM

City Council Chamber

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Rubin called the meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission to order at 4:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Garfield arrived at 4:40 p.m. Commissioner Allen arrived at 4:42 p.m.

Present 7 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Laura Rubin, Sylvia Taylor and Peter Allen

Absent 2 - Gilbert S. Omenn and Christopher S. Easthope

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Tom Freeman - Washtenaw County Parks

Tom Freeman thanked the commission for their help with the purchase and the protection of the property on Peters Road from Mel and Betty Fox (soon to be known as the Fox Science Preserve) as well as the help given on the purchase and protection of the properties owned by The Builtmore Company. The protection of those properties adds 139 acres to the properties being preserved.

The property presented today is located on the north side of Scio Township, just west of Wagner Road in Scio Township. Scio Township has discussed it and has made a pledge of 10%, up to \$225,000.00 as their commitment towards the purchase of the land. The properties are owned by the Kitters Family, the Dudley's, Herrera and the Rieth families. Mr. Freeman passed out a map of the areas being preserved. A copy of the map is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

2. Molly Notarianni - Farmer's Market Manager

Molly Notarianni, Farmer's Market Manager, gave a slide presentation to the commission regarding the Greenbelt and the Ann Arbor Farmer's Market. She spoke about who comes to the Farmers Market, why there are so few within the Greenbelt, explaining that the land is very fertile, close proximity to the city, some large commodity farms and historically high land values, making it difficult for beginning farmers to afford to buy or lease land within the Greenbelt. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office. Maps of Farmer's Market vendors were also provided to the commission and are on file in the City Clerk's Office.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Santi Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ezekiel, that the Agenda be approved with the following changes:

Move Closed Session before Public Hearings section of the agenda.

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[08-0671](#)

Greenbelt Advisory Commission - June 4, 2008

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Santi Hall, that the regular session minutes of June 4, 2008, be approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER LAND ACQUISITION

Commissioner Taylor left after the closed session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ezekiel, seconded by Commissioner Garfield, 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 recessed at 5:28 p.m.:

Yeas: 7 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Ezekiel, Commissioner Garfield, Commissioner Santi Hall, Commissioner Rubin, Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Allen

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Omenn and Councilmember Easthope

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Ezekiel, that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

Land Acquisition Application No. 2007-15

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, that the City Council partner with the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Department and Scio Township on the purchase of the property identified in Application ID number 2007-15 and to provide \$[2]350,000.00 towards the purchase. As part of the motion the Commission also asks that Washtenaw County to update the appraisal and to appraise the property by individual parcel as well as a single parcel. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Taylor left at 6:02 p.m.

Present 6 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Laura Rubin and Peter Allen

Absent 3 - Gilbert S. Omenn, Sylvia Taylor and Christopher S. Easthope

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Gilbert S. Omenn and Laura Rubin

Absent 3 - Sylvia Taylor, Christopher S. Easthope and Peter Allen

08-0607

Bid Process

The Commission discussed Commissioner Rubin's letter regarding the bid process.

Commissioner Bloomer suggested revising the letter to gear it more towards developers instead of farmers; as developers may have more of an incentive to respond than farmers would.

Peg Kohring suggested creating an RFP for developers instead of using the letter. The letter was proposed to only be something easier for farmers to use in this process.

The consensus of the rest of the commission was to move forward with an RFP and discuss the bid process in more detail on September 3, 2008.

Commissioner Allen left at 6:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Santi Hall, that the Commission prepare a resolution to send to City Council regarding a process outlining a bid process that would require land at the bargain sale process. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None presented at this meeting.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMISSIONER EZEKIEL

Commissioner Ezekeil, said that he had trouble finding the Greenbelts flyer online.

The web page will be reorganized and the flyer should be included on the web page some time in September.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Garfield, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, that the meeting be Adjourn. On a voice vote, the chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Laura Rubin, Chairperson

**Anissa R. King
Recording Secretary**