



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 15, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the at the Ann Arbor Municipal Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Council Chambers (Larcom City Hall Building), 301 E. Huron, Ann Arbor MI

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Chair J. Grand.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (7) J. Grand, T. Berla, K. Levin T. Doyle, D. Chapman, G. Nystuen, J. Lawter

Ex-Officio Members Present: (1) M. Anglin

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (1) C. Taylor

Members Absent: (2) S. Offen, D. Barrett

Staff Present: (6) C. Smith, A. Kuras, D. Borneman, G. Trocchio, K. Mortson, L. Bowen

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Grand** asked for a motion to approve the agenda, **Commissioner Doyle** moved, supported by **Commissioner Lawter** to approve the agenda as written. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

**N. Kaplan** expressed concern on the proposed parking garage pertaining to the Fuller Road Station.

**R. Mitchell** spoke on the proposed parking garage pertaining to the Fuller Road Station

**A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Berla** moved; supported by **Commissioner Levin** to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2011. The minutes of October 18, 2011 were approved unanimously as written.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

NAP Volunteers of the year – Sara Newman & Drew Lathin

**D. Borneman** read and presented the proclamations to the NAP Volunteers of the year.

51 **S. Newman** thanked the Commission and NAP for the recognition and the work that is  
52 diligently done in the parks.

53  
54 **D. Lathin** thanked the Commission and NAP for the recognition. D. Lathin explained the  
55 hard work that is required and explained how important it is to continue to work and beautify  
56 the parks.

57  
58 **C. Smith** and J. Grand presented L. Bowen with a plaque and flowers in celebration of her  
59 retirement.

60  
61 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

62  
63 **B-1** Land Acquisition Funds Financial Update

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65 **G. Trocchio** gave an overview to the Commission regarding the Land  
66 Acquisition funds financial update.

67  
68 **C. Smith** complimented G. Trocchio and her staff for a job well done.

69  
70 **B-2** Advertising and Marketing in Parks & Recreation Services

71  
72 **K. Mortson** gave an overview on the advertising and marketing in Parks and  
73 Recreation Services, along with a power point presentation. K. Mortson also  
74 shared the success of Parks & Recreation Services being involved with  
75 Facebook, Twitter and social media.

76  
77 **J. Grand** complimented K. Mortson on her excellent work with advertising.

78  
79 **G. Nystuen** also complimented K. Mortson on the hard work done advertising  
80 for the Park & Recreation Services.

81  
82 **C. Smith** stated K. Mortson is doing a very good job in many areas of the  
83 advertising for Parks & Recreation Services.

84  
85 **B-3** Sustainability Framework – Joint Commission Meeting Summary

86  
87 **J. Kidwell** gave an overview of the Joint Commission summary. J. Kidwell  
88 also explained the meeting that included four different Commissions was  
89 successful pertaining to the target and goals for the future in the service areas.

90  
91 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

92  
93 **C-1** Parking Lot Improvements

94  
95 **A. Kuras** and L. Rolla explained the plans for the parking lot improvements at  
96 Riverside Park, along with the portion of re-paving on Dexter Ave. that runs  
97 adjacent to Veterans Park.

98  
99 **L. Rolla** explained the upcoming Dexter Ave. project to the Commission; A.  
100 Kuras stated path will be re-built.

101

102 **C. Smith** stated a question was brought to him at a public meeting regarding  
103 the Vets parking lot being improved. C. Smith stated this project will be of  
104 significant benefit for park users.

105  
106 **K. Levin** asked if there was a timeline regarding this project.

107  
108 **L. Rolla** stated the proposed time frame would be between April and  
109 November 2012.

110  
111 **C. Smith** stated improvements at the softball fields at Veterans Memorial Park  
112 will begin in August 2012 and it would be beneficial to coordinate the projects.

113  
114 **T. Berla** asked if there was anything that could be done regarding the flooded  
115 pathway at Riverside Park.

116  
117 **C. Smith** asked A. Kuras could elaborate on where the parking lot would be  
118 moved in the future.

119  
120 **A, Kuras** explained the changes that will take place including the alignment of  
121 the path as well as where the parking lot would be moved in Riverside Park.

122  
123  
124 **C-2** MDEQ Wetland Permit for Miller Creek in Ruthven Nature Area

125  
126 **L. Treemore-Spears** gave an overview to the Commission pertaining to the  
127 sedimentation issues at Miller Creek in Ruthven Nature Area. L. Treemore-  
128 Spears also stated there has been a public meeting requested with the MDEQ.

129  
130 **T. Berla** asked when this proposed project is done, will the same work need to  
131 be done again.

132  
133 **L. Treemore-Spears** stated Systems Planning will be conducting a study and  
134 this question would be better answered by them.

135  
136 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

137  
138 **G. Nystuen** asked if the Commission could be updated on the recent plans pertaining  
139 to the proposed Fuller Road Station.

140  
141 **C. Smith** asked for concerned questions to be sent to him so that the proper parties  
142 can address the questions.

143  
144 **T. Berla** suggested the proper parties to attend the Park Advisory Commission  
145 meeting to update the Commission.

146  
147 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

148  
149 **C. Smith** gave an overview on the public meeting held pertaining to the renovations of  
150 the softball fields. C. Smith gave an update on the progress at Argo Dam.

151  
152 C. Smith stated the outdoor rink opened at Buhr on October 29, 2011 and had a busy  
153 and productive weekend.

154 C. Smith stated there will be a holiday party for senior center users planned in  
155 conjunction with Google, who will cover all costs.  
156

157  
158 C. Smith gave an overview pertaining to the grant scores received. Gallup park livery  
159 came in second out of 100 applicants, while the skatepark ranked 12<sup>th</sup> out of 100.  
160

161 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

162  
163 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

164  
165 **H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK**  
166 **FORCES**

167  
168 **G. Nystuen** gave an overview pertaining to the Environmental Commission meeting.

169  
170 **J. Lawter** gave an overview regarding the dog park issue with off leash dogs.

171  
172 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL** (3 Minutes per Speaker)

173  
174 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVELEDGED CLIENT ATTORNEY INFORMATION**

175  
176 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

177  
178 **K-1** City Council Items Update

179  
180 **K-2** Park Project Update

181  
182 **K-3** City of Ann Arbor 2008 – 2013 Park Maintenance and Capital  
183 Improvements Millage Status

184  
185 There being no further business to come before the Commission, the open meeting of the  
186 Park Advisory Commission was adjourned at 5:52 p.m. The Commission unanimously  
187 agreed.  
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189  
190