

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 7, 2019

4:30 PM

**Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council
Chambers**

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Ramsburgh called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron Street.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Stephanie Buttrey, John Ramsburgh, Jean Cares, Robert Gordon, Julie Grand, Stefanie Stauffer, and Sheila Schueller

Absent: 2 - Jennifer Fike, and Alexander Perlman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Buttrey, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, that the Agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Co-Chair declared the motion carried.

A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 19-0266 Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of May 3, 2018 and February 7, 2019

A motion was made by Commissioner Buttrey, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, that the May 18, 2018 Minutes be approved presented and that the February 7, 2019 meeting minutes be approved with the following change and forwarded to City Council for filing:

Top of Page 3

Typo - Mr. Lon[e]lk

On a voice vote, the co-chair declared the motion carried.

Note: [Brackets] indicate deleted language.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

4 SPEAKERS MAXIMUM - 5 MINUTES 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.

B OLD BUSINESS

None.

C NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Staff Update

a. Budget Overview

Remy Long reported that the Greenbelt Fund has \$5,550,279.00 at the end of quarter one in 2018, which is the most recent audited balance for the fund. There are 22 projects in the pipeline, which includes those that the city is spearheading and pursuing as a partner with other conservation programs. That allots to a total of 2100= acres in the pipeline. The projects are in various stages of the process and not all been appraised. The estimated and appraised values are over \$6 million in value for the entire pipeline.

b. Recap Panel Discussion at AADL

Mr. Long reported that the the Ann Arbor District Library hosted a panel discussion on open space preservation on land-linking and land-access options for new and beginning farmers. The panel consisted of Mr. Long, Ginny Trocchio with Washtenaw County, Larry Dahl, boardmember on Legacy Land Conservancy, a young farmer by the name of Hannah and Kathy Sample of Argus Farm Stop. Each person spoke on behalf of their own initiatives and how they relate to the local food system, open space preservation and inter-generational transfer of farmland. The turnout was great and the meeting was recorded and is available online if anyone would like to watch it.

c. County Protected Land Mapping

Mr. Long showed the commission a map of protected lands in the Washtenaw County area. The impact to date moved to a relatively parks-heavy landscape which is clustered up near the Waterloo/Pinkney area between the years 2000 and 2019. Mr. Long felt that this was extremely indicative of the high density of conservation programs that are available in Washtenaw County and the ability for those programs to work

along and with partners in the area to leverage funds for properties. The commission discussed the matter in more detail.

C-2 **R-19-076: Lepkowski Resolution**

a. **Review of Council Comments**

Mr. Long presented a list of City Council comments regarding the Lepkowski Resolution to the commission. He noted that many of the comments on the list were paraphrased comments from council. The complete conversation can be viewed via onDemand video of the city council meeting. A copy of the list of comments is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

19-0482 Greenbelt Scoring Recommendations

Received and Filed

C-3 **Scoring Discussion**

a. **Review Staff Memo**

Mr. Long presented a memo to the commission regarding the Greenbelt Scoring Recommendations. He noted that the scoring recommendations and Strategic Plan needs to be updated and could be reviewed and revised at the same time. After further discussion of the matter, the commission formed a subcommittee to review and discuss the scoring process further. A copy of the memo presented to the commission is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Co-Chair Ramsburgh asked that the Strategic Plan be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

19-0483 City Council Comments on Lepkowski Resolution

Received and Filed

b. **Goals of Scoring Update/Changes Needed**

See comments above.

c. Communications Strategy/Roll of Summer Intern

Mr. Long said that he met with the candidate for the summer intern and they would be taking the next step of applying for funding for that candidate.

C-4 Letter from Bary Lonki regarding Greenbelt District Expansion

19-0484 Email from Bary Lonik regarding Greenbelt District Expansion

The Commission discussed an email from Bary Lonik regarding the Greenbelt District. A copy of the email is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Received and Filed

D NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

Read and review the current Strategic Plan.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

5 MINUTES MAXIMUM SPEAKING TIME - NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SPEAKING IN THIS SECTION.

None.

E COMMUNICATIONS

E-1 Communications Committee

None.

F REPORT FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES

F-1 Executive Committee Report

Mr. Ramsburg gave an update on what the Executive Committee met about. They talked about the Lepkowski vote and Mr. Long sharing information about upcoming properties. They also talked about having someone from the commission attend the council meetings to explain why the commission has made their recommendation on a property.

Discussions took place about a potential intern as well as possibly moving the bus tours to the fall.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Stauffer, seconded by Commissioner Cares, that the meeting adjourn. On a voice vote, the co-chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

**Jennifer Fike, Chairperson
Anissa R. Bowden, Recording Secretary**