



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 18, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Washtenaw County Administration Building in the County Board of Commission Public Meeting Room, 220 N. Main St., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Chair L. Berauer.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (7) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, S. Rosencrans,
T. Berla, S. Offen, J. Grand, J. Lawter

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

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

Members Absent: (2) G. Nystuen, D. Barrett

Staff Present: (7) J. Straw, M. Warba, D. Borneman, C. Hupy, M. Wade,
A. Kuras, L. Bowen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Berauer stated there would be a change in the agenda consisting of the election for new officers of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Commission. The vote will consist of a secret ballot with Jeff Straw facilitating.

L. Berauer stated Brigit Macomber as well as herself are completing their second terms on the Park Advisory Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 Commissioner Berauer moved, supported by **Commissioner Rosencrans** to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2009 meeting as written. The minutes of July 21, 2009 were approved unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Update from Skate Park Action Committee

Trevor Staples updated the Commission on the designs and donations for the Skate Park project. T. Staples also passed communications to the Commission.

52 **J. Reisohe** updated the Commission on the issue of fundraising for the project and stated
53 there has been positive feedback regarding the project. The Community Foundation funds
54 have reached approximately \$17,000.00. J. Reishoe stated 10% of the donations given to
55 the Community Foundation fund have been set aside for maintenance of the Skate Park.
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57 **T. Staples** stated there has been discussion with the Washtenaw County Parks and they
58 have expressed an interest in this project.
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60 **S. Rosencrans** asked if donor plaques would be allowed.
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62 **J. Straw** stated the process of memorials and plaques are being reviewed.
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64 **T. Staples** stated A. Kuras will be involved with the design of the Skate Park.
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66 **L. Berauer** asked A. Kuras if she will be involved in the upcoming meetings.
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68 **A. Kuras** stated yes.
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70 **S. Offen** asked if there are specific guidelines to the construction of this project.
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72 **A. Kuras** stated she will be involved in the design of the project and these discussions are
73 in very early stages.
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75 **J. Straw** stated when the project is in the construction phases the City will be involved
76 throughout the entire process.
77

78 **M. Anglin** complimented T. Staples on the entire project and offered suggestions from
79 different groups that will be of some help towards reaching the goal of this project.
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81 **J. Reisohe** stated he has had conversation with the Jaycees regarding discussing possible
82 funds for the project.
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84 **S. Rosencrans** asked if there were any upcoming events.
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86 **T. Staples** stated the next event will be in October 2009.
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88 **PUBLIC HEARING**

89 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

90 **B-1** West Park Master Plan Update

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93 **A. Kuras** updated the Commission on the West Park Master Plan as
94 well as giving a Power Point presentation in regards to the renovations in
95 the park in depth.
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98 **A. Kline** from ECT, an environmental consultant on retention for the West
99 Park Project, explained the storm water management plan and other
100 renovations including the bioswale to the Commission in depth.
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J. Grand asked if the renovations would cause any hazards to children by gaining access to the water after the drainage occurs.

A. Kline stated there will be over grown vegetation in this area and it would be very difficult for children to enter the water.

A. Kuras stated the plan for the bioswale is to direct water in the proper direction and solve issues related to drainage, standing water, and water quality.

L. Berauer asked why there were trees on the Indian path that were marked.

A. Kline stated there is a plan for which trees will be removed.

L. Berauer asked how many trees will have to be removed.

A. Kline stated approximately 200 caliper inches of trees will be removed. The large oaks will not be removed. New trees will be planted to replace the lost caliper inches.

The willows near the band shell are not healthy and will be taken out. Cuttings will be taken from the existing willows prior to removal to preserve the existing local genotype.

S. Rosencrans asked which part of this project will qualify for the stimulus funding.

A. Kuras stated the entire project should qualify for the funding.

M. Wade stated the cost of the storm water improvement is approximately \$3.54 million dollars. The project has been fast tracked due to the county applying for low interest loans and stimulus packages. If these funds are awarded there will be a 40% loan forgiveness.

C - NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers

L. Berauer stated she would facilitate the nomination process and the discussion. Jeff Straw will facilitate the ballot voting.

J. Lawter nominated **S. Rosencrans** for Chair; **L. Berauer** seconded the nomination of **S. Rosencrans**; **S. Rosencrans** accepted the nomination of Chair for the Park Advisory Commission.

There were no other nominations for the office of Chair.

B. Macomber nominated **J. Lawter** to retain his position of Vice Chair; **L. Berauer** seconded the nomination; **J. Lawter** accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations for the office of Vice Chair.

155 **L. Berauer** stated the new office for Chair of the Budget Commission was a very
156 important position. L. Berauer also stated the Commission does not vote on this
157 position; this position is to be appointed by the Chair of the Commission, but ratified by
158 the Commission.

159
160 L. Berauer suggested the new Chair appoint someone to this position as soon as
161 possible.

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163 **S. Rosencrans** complimented both L. Berauer and B. Macomber for their efforts on
164 the Commission.

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166 **J. Straw stated S. Rosencrans was voted in for the office of Chair for the**
167 **Commission and J. Lawter was voted in for Vice Chair for the Commission.**

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169 **L. Berauer** stated she has asked the Attorney's office to attend a meeting as soon as
170 possible to explain in detail how Parks are designated officially as "Parks".

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172 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

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174 **S. Offen** asked what the nature of the City's contribution if any would be if there is a
175 personal event is held at the Farmers Market

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177 **J. Straw** explained the space at the Farmers Market is rented and fees are charged
178 accordingly.

179
180 **L. Berauer** asked if there is a pricing structure regarding as non-profit groups versus
181 profit groups.

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183 **J. Straw** stated yes.

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185 **L. Berauer** asked if the memorial and gifts policy is being addressed.

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187 **J. Straw** stated yes this policy as well as a sponsorship is being reviewed.

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189 **B. Macomber** suggested the work planning session continue and encouraged the new
190 Chair and Vice Chair to proceed with the goals for the upcoming year.

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192 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

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194 **J. Straw** stated the Senior Center task force and the Mack Pool task force both have
195 met.

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197 **S. Rosencrans** stated there are representatives from the Park Advisory Commission
198 on both of the mentioned committees.

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200 **J. Straw** stated the fiscal reports may be included in the next packet. J. Straw also
201 mentioned the upcoming events that would be held at various parks.

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203 **J. Straw** stated City Council approved the concept design plans for the possible Fuller
204 Inter-Mobile Transit Station project.

The University of Michigan will make a contribution of 75% of the contract, and the City will contribute 25% towards the work that will be done.

L. Berauer asked why parkland is being used for this project.

M. Anglin stated the City's donation was the land itself.

J. Straw stated the land is currently being used as a parking lot and that in the proposed scope of the project the footprint for the parking structure is similar to that of the existing parking lot..

T. Berla stated there is a lengthy and indecisive history regarding this land.

J. Straw complimented both L. Berauer and B Macomber for their efforts on the Commission.

F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

M. Warba introduced Craig Hupy who is serving as Interim Manager of Field Operations.

C. Hupy spoke briefly to the Commission.

M. Warba updated the Commission on the fields that have been renovated.

G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK FORCES

J. Grand explained how the Senior Center task force is progressing. J. Grand also complimented the Golf Courses and stressed how well the golf courses are progressing and how well they are maintained.

J. Straw stated that Leslie Golf Course was featured in Golf Digest is very positive.

S. Rosencrans spoke on the Veterans Ice Area renovations.

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

J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVELEDGED CLIENT ATTORNEY INFORMATION

K - TRANSMITTALS

K-1 City Council Items Update

K-2 Park Project Update

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

K-4 Open Spaces

258 **K-5** Senior Center Fundraiser

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260 **K-6** Mack Pool Reopens

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262 There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Berauer**
263 **moved** that the open meeting be adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

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