

City of Ann Arbor

100 N. Fifth Avenue
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

4:30 PM

County Building, 220 N. Main St.

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hall called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. in the County Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, 220 S. Main Street.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Rubin arrived at 4:38 p.m.

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

Absent 3 - Gilbert S. Omenn, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Commissioners Hohnke and Riseng arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Present 8 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

Absent 1 - Gilbert S. Omenn

1. RealTimeFarms.com - Lindsay-Jean Hard

Lindsay-Jean Hard explained the RealTimeFarms.com website to the Commission. Real Time Farms is a live, local food guide, that showcases farmers markets and farm stands from all around the country. Real Time Farms was created by Karl Rosaen in the Spring of 2010. Mr. Rosaen wanted to create a dynamic, exciting, and information-rich way to connect consumers to fresh sources of food.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 10-0926 Greenbelt Advisory Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2010

A motion was made by Commissioner Riseng, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the Minutes of July 14, 2010 be approved and forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Omenn arrived at 5:12 p.m.

Present 9 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Michael Garfield, Jennifer Santi Hall, Gilbert S. Omenn, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

10-0917 FY 2009-2010 Activity Report and Financials

Kelli McKinnon, Financial Manager of Planning and Development Services, explained the 2009-2010 Activity Report and Financials to the Commission. A copy of the report is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Ginny Trocchio explained the Open space and Parkland Preservation Program Report FY 2009-2010 to the Commission. The report highlights all of the acquisitions for both the Greenbelt and the Park Advisory Commissions. New sections have been added to the report. The Strategic Plan statement has been revised based on revisions from last year. A map of the greenbelt has been included in the report as well. A copy of the report is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ezekiel, seconded by Commissioner Omenn, that the Report be approved and a copy be forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

2. Staff Update

FARM AND RANCH LAND PROTECTION PROGRAM (FRPP)

Ms. Trocchio announced that they have received \$282,750.00 for the Lee and Lori Maulbetsch properties in Northfield Township. They also received \$611,030.00 for the Geiger property in Salem Township. A total of \$893,780.00 was received from FRPP this year. A Resolution would go to City Council on September 20, 2010 to accept those grants.

HOMEGROWN FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 11, 2010 is the Homegrown Festival. A Greenbelt table is being set up to explain the program. If commissioners are interested in helping out on Saturday, they should contact Ms. Trocchio.

GREENBELT MEETING DATES FOR 2011

Ms. Trocchio said that she would send out an email to coordinate the 2011 meeting dates with commissioners.

GREENBELT TOUR

Commissioner Ezekiel gave a report of the bus tour. He said that public outreach activities would become increasingly important and that it is also important to inform the public about land that has already been preserved and why it's beneficial to preserve it. Mr. Ezekiel suggested including an outreach section in the Strategic Plan.

STANDARDS AND PRACTICES

Peg Kohring said that they have been following the Landtrust Alliances practices for monitoring sites and record keeping. They are creating a manual explaining the standards and practices of the Conservation Fund. The manual would be given to the Commission within the new couple of months.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None presented.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

See Staff Updates.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

Commissioner Garfield said that it might be an idea to talk about outreach at the next greenbelt meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION

A motion was made by Commissioner Hohnke, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the Commission enter into Closed Session to discuss Land Acquisition(s). On roll call, the vote was as follows, with the Chair declaring the motion carried. (The meeting recessed at 5:34 p.m.):

Yeas: 8 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Ezekiel, Commissioner Garfield, Commissioner Santi Hall, Commissioner Rubin, Commissioner Allen, Councilmember Hohnke, and Commissioner Riseng

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Omenn

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Commissioner Rubin, seconded by Commissioner Ezekiel, that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting reconvened at 6:03 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Riseng, seconded by Commissioner Ezekiel, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Jennifer Santi Hall, Chairperson

Anissa R. Bowden
Recording Secretary