

City of Ann Arbor

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

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

4:30 PM

County Building, 220 N. Main St.

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Rubin called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. in the County Board of Commissioners Meeting Room, 220 S. Main Street.

ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Jennifer Santi Hall, Gilbert S. Omenn, and Commissioner Laura Rubin

Absent 4 - Michael Garfield, Peter Allen, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

(Commissioner Allen Arrived at 4:35 p.m.)

Present 6 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Jennifer Santi Hall, Gilbert S. Omenn, Commissioner Laura Rubin, and Peter Allen

Absent 3 - Michael Garfield, Carsten Hohnke, and Catherine Riseng

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. 10-0598 GAC Minutes of May 12, 2010

A motion was made by Commissioner Omenn, seconded by Commissioner Santi Hall, that the Minutes of May 12, 2010 be approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and on July 6, 2010. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. 10-0727 Small Farm Subcommittee Slide Presentation

Ginny Trocchio said that the Small Farms Committee met a number of times over the past year. The two major topics discussed were easement terms and future ownership of property. The discussion on easement terms asked the question of whether changes or alterations were needed in order to make them more suitable for smaller farms. The topic of future ownership of property brought on concern with future property being transferred to a non-farm owner and possibly being converted into someone's estate.

Ms. Trocchio gave a slide presentation regarding small farms and gave a breakdown of the easement terms. She also explained the concerns with future ownership in more detail. A copy of the presentation is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Staff recommended moving forward with additional language and amending the amendment clause in the Conservation Easement Terms. The Commission agreed to discuss and recommend new language regarding the Conservation Easement terms at their next meeting.

2. Staff Updates

Ms. Trocchio said that the Farm and Ranch Land Protection Grant deadline is July 1, 2010 and they are preparing several applications.

She also informed the Commission that the Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan is currently undergoing its 5-year update. There is a section on land acquisition which includes this millage. Citizens will receive a survey in the mail soon.

Ms. Trocchio announced that The Food System Economic Annual Conference is scheduled for June 24, 2010. Log onto www.michigan.org for additional information.

She also announced that the "Breakfast on the Farm" is scheduled for June 26, 2010. It is a free breakfast and farm tour in Manchester. For more information, log onto www.breakfastonthefarm.org.

She also informed the Commission that the Greenbelt Tour would be held on July 17, 2010 and that Greenbelt signs have been made and a number of them distributed.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None presented.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

None.

REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Omenn, that the Commission enter into Closed session to discuss land acquisition. On roll call, the vote was as follows, with the Chair declaring the motion carried and the meeting recessed at 5:13 p.m.:

Yeas: 6 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Ezekiel, Commissioner Santi Hall, Commissioner Omenn, Commissioner Rubin, and Commissioner Allen

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Garfield, Councilmember Hohnke, and Commissioner Riseng

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Commissioner Omenn, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting reconvened at 5:59 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Omenn, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Laura Rubin, Chairperson

**Anissa R. Bowden
Recording Secretary**