



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 16, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, August 16, 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 4:10p.m. by Chair J. Grand.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (8) J. Grand, T. Berla, D. Barrett, T. Doyle, D. Chapman, G. Nystuen, S. Offen, J. Lawter

Ex-Officio Members Present: (2) M. Anglin, C. Taylor

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (0) None.

Members Absent: (1) K. Levin

Staff Present: (9) C. Smith, J. Straw, M. Warba, C. Saam, A. Kuras, M. Naud, J Kidwell, D. Borneman, B. Steglitz

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

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

**E. Boyd** spoke in support of trails as part of the Fuller Road Station project.

**J. Satarino** spoke on the Border to Border trail project & the Fuller Road Station project.

**A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Commissioner Lawter** moved; supported by **Commissioner Berla** to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2011. The minutes of July 19, 2011 were approved unanimously as written.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Urban and Community Forest Management Plan Update**

**O. Kiley** gave an overview about the development of the city’s urban forest management plan.

**G. Nystuen** asked if the plan addressed the role of the urban forest regarding storm water.

53 **O. Kiley** explained the research that had taken place pertaining to the storm water.

54

55 **Sustainability Framework Update**

56

57 **J. Kidwell** gave a presentation on the city's sustainability project plan.

58

59 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

60

61 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

62

63 **C-1** Update on Argo Dam Headrace Reconstruction

64

65 **B. Steglitz** updated the Commission on the process made on the  
66 reconstruction of the Argo Dam Headrace, and also explained the permit  
67 process.

68

69 **C. Smith** stated there is a large amount of work being done and encouraged  
70 the Commission to visit the site.

71

72 **C-2** Resolution to Recommend Amending Project Scope with TSP Environmental  
73 for Work at the Argo Headrace

74

75 **C. Smith** explained the resolution to the Commission, and also read the  
76 resolution to the Commission.

77

78 **RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND AMENDING PROJECT SCOPE WITH TSP**  
79 **ENVIRONMENTAL FOR WORK AT THE ARGO HEADRACE**

80

81 Whereas, The City Council authorized a contract with TSP Environmental on November 15,  
82 2010 for work including two whitewater features in the Huron River;

83

84 Whereas, DTE recently performed sediment sampling in the construction area of the white  
85 water features that revealed the need for remediation;

86

87 Whereas, DTE has committed to funding the construction of the whitewater features once  
88 remediation is complete;

89

90 Whereas, The entrance to the Argo headrace is unattractive and functions poorly and  
91 interest has been expressed in improving it;

92

93 Whereas, Funding is available to renovate the entrance to the Argo headrace as a result of  
94 cost savings realized by DTE's commitment to the future funding of the whitewater features.

95

96 **RESOLVED**, That the Park Advisory Commission recommends amending a contract with  
97 TSP Environmental to design and construct an improved entrance to the Argo Dam  
98 Headrace utilizing costs savings realized from DTE's commitment to funding the whitewater  
99 features approved as part of the original contract with TSP.

100

101 Prepared by: Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Services Manager

102 Molly Wade, Water Treatment Services Manager

103 **T. Berla** moved, supported by **D. Barrett** to approve Resolution to recommend  
104 amending project scope with TSP Environmental for work at the Argo  
105 Headrace

106  
107 **Ayes: (8) J. Grand, G. Nystuen, T. Berla, S. Offen, D. Barrett,**  
108 **D. Chapman, T. Doyle, J. Lawter**

109  
110 **Nays: (0) None.**

111  
112 **Absent: (1) K. Levin**

113  
114 *On a vote by a show of hands – **Motion Passed** to approve Resolution to*  
115 *recommend amending project scope with TSP Environmental for work at the*  
116 *Argo Headrace*

117  
118 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

119  
120 **D-1 Dog's in the City – Challenges and Opportunities**

121  
122 **J. Lawter** gave an overview on dogs in Ann Arbor, and raised the possibility  
123 that the City might benefit from additional dog parks.

124  
125 **G. Nystuen** suggested a sub-committee be formed to work on issues  
126 pertaining to the dog parks; also stating she would be willing to assist on a  
127 formed committee.

128  
129 **S. Offen** suggested there be an application at the dog parks for citizens to  
130 complete rather than having to come downtown to complete this task.

131  
132 **D-2 Border – to – Border Trail and Fuller Road Station**

133  
134 **T. Berla** gave an overview on this issue and explained the proposed resolution  
135 highlighted the need for trails to be part of the Fuller Road Station project

136  
137 **J. Batterman & L. Deck** from the Washtenaw Biking and Walking Coalition  
138 both gave an overview on this issue to the Commission.

139  
140 **T. Berla** moved, supported by **D. Barrett** to approve Resolution on the  
141 proposed Fuller Road Station (FRS) and Non-Motorized Transportation

142  
143 **RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED FULLER ROAD STATION (FRS) AND NON-**  
144 **MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION**

145  
146 Whereas the completion of a trail system along the Huron River valley through the string of  
147 city parks from Gallup to Barton has been master planned in the Ann Arbor Parks and  
148 Recreation Open Space (PROS) plans for decades, and the Ann Arbor river trail is now a  
149 major section of the Border-to-Border (B2B) Trail through Washtenaw County, and

150  
151 Whereas facilitating non-motorized travel supports the city goals of reducing the city carbon  
152 footprint and increasing sustainability, and improving non-motorized transportation options  
153 in the area, including bicycling, walking, and wheel chair travel, is a key goal of the  
154 proposed FRS project, and

155 Whereas an attractive and well-designed greenway trail along the Huron is a major  
156 recreational park amenity accessible to many users of all ages and abilities, and  
157

158 Whereas the continued increase in vehicular traffic on Fuller Road will necessitate improved  
159 options for safe non-motorized travel in the area, and  
160

161 Whereas the proposed FRS would drastically increase the volume of vehicles crossing the  
162 path along the south side of Fuller Road;

163 Be It Therefore RESOLVED that PAC Recommends the following:  
164

165 That detailed plans for the design and funding of the trail system including the B2B Trail  
166 through Fuller Park and the connecting links on all sides be approved by PAC and City  
167 Council prior to action on the FRS project, and  
168

169 That a safe design to facilitate bicycle, pedestrian and wheelchair access through the  
170 intersections, crossing lanes, and driveways as well as on and off road bike lanes be fully  
171 developed prior to any construction, and  
172

173 That trail improvements be completed prior to, or concurrently with construction of Fuller  
174 Road, crosswalks, accesses, intersections and roundabout, and any structures of the entire  
175 FRS project including those beyond the Phase I parking structure, and  
176

177 That any future transit improvements, including the "Signature Route" of the future rapid  
178 transit UM connector through Fuller Park or along Fuller Road should preserve the integrity  
179 of the trail system,  
180

181 That improvement of the trail system, including the B2B Trail, be given priority over the  
182 bicycle elements of Phase I of FRS since there is use of and demand for trail continuity now,  
183 and  
184

185 That the costs of a complete non-motorized trail system and source of funding be  
186 established jointly by the City of Ann Arbor, the University of Michigan, and the Washtenaw  
187 County Parks & Recreation Commission.  
188

189 Prepared by: Commissioner Tim Berla  
190 Commissioner Gwen Nystuen  
191

192 **Ayes: (8) J. Grand, G. Nystuen, T. Berla, S. Offen, D. Barrett,**  
193 **D. Chapman, T. Doyle, J. Lawter**

194  
195 **Nays: (0) None.**

196  
197 **Absent: (1) K. Levin**  
198

199 *On a vote by a show of hands – **Motion Passed** to approve Resolution on the*  
200 *proposed Fuller Road Station (FRS) non-motorized transportation*  
201

202 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**  
203

204 **C. Smith** elaborated on the newly launched RiverUp program.  
205  
206

207 C. Smith announced Matt Warba's promotion to assistant manager of field operations.

208  
209 **M. Warba** gave an update of Plymouth Road Park.

210  
211 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

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213 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

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

217  
218 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

219  
220 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVILEGED CLIENT**  
221 **ATTORNEY INFORMATION**

222  
223 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

224  
225 **K-1** City Council Items Update

226  
227 **K-2** Park Project Update

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

231  
232 **K-4** Public Meeting Notices

233  
234 There being no further business to come before the Commission, the open meeting of the  
235 Park Advisory Commission was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The Commission unanimously  
236 agreed.