

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 5, 2012

4:30 PM

City Hall, 301 E. Huron St., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ezekiel called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron St.

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Catherine Riseng, Liz Rother, and Shannon Brines

Absent 2 - Michael Garfield, and Carsten Hohnke

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Richard Andres – Washtenaw County Food Hub

Richard Andres addressed the commission regarding the Washtenaw County Food Hub. He said that creating a belt of preserved land is key in bringing food in to town, and taking compost out. It also helps the local economy. He said that his property is approximately 20 miles outside of town, still within Washtenaw County. He said that he would like to create a station on his property with enhanced distribution for their own CSA as well as other farmers who may want to participate. The site has historically served as a place to support farmers, providing bins for fertilizer, grain, mixing various products, etc. They would like to repurpose the site and use it for a destination for people who want to participate in CSA distributions and local food. The idea is to set up large coolers, freezers for storing over winter, an area to wash and pack vegetables. There would also be a warm area for people to come in the winter to pick up shares. It would be open more than one day a week during the winter. It would be an enhanced site that would support farmers and the community. It would support farmers with loading docks, bays for storing fertilizer and buying in bulk, and creating a better network of distribution and retail sales. Mr. Andres then answered questions of the commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

(4 SPEAKERS MAXIMUM - 5 MINUTE 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.)

Thomas Partridge, Ann Arbor resident, addressed the commission regarding the use of Greenbelt property for affordable housing and and affordable county wide transportation.

A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes not available.

B OLD BUSINESS

None. (Commissioner Hohnke arrived at 5:00 p.m.)

Present 8 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Carsten Hohnke, Catherine Riseng, Liz Rother, and Shannon Brines

Absent 1 - Michael Garfield

C NEW BUSINESS

C-1 12-0656 Finance Update

Ginny Trocchio presented the Mid-month Fiscal Year Income Statement to the commission. A copy of the statement is on file in the City Clerk's Office.)

C-2 Staff Updates

NEW FRPP GRANT APPLICATIONS

Ms. Trocchio announced that the Conservation Fund has submitted four properties for FRPP Grants, totaling 519 acres, requesting \$1,037,198.00. State wide, there was \$2.3 million available. Ingham and Kent Counties have submitted FRPP Grant applications as well.

CLOSING OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES

Ms. Trocchio reported that they are expecting to close on another four properties, totaling another 300 acres within the next couple of months. One of the properties is in Superior Township, with Southeast Land Conservancy and Washtenaw County; another in Ann Arbor Township, with Washtenaw County and Ann Arbor Township; another in Ann Arbor Township with FRPP and the Township.

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Ms. Trocchio said that September 8, 2012 is the HomeGrown Festival. They will have a booth at the event and anyone who is interested helping at the booth should let her know. She will also be organizing another bus tour on September 22, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A panel discussion with land owners have been scheduled November 7, 2012 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

UPDATE ON FARM BILL

Ms. Trocchio

D NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

E REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

F COMMUNICATIONS

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY (5 MINIMUTE MAXIMUM SPEAKING TIME - NO LIMIT
TO THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SPEAKING IN THIS SECTION.)**

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION

ADJOURNMENT

Dan Ezekiel, Chair

Anissa R. Bowden
Recording Secretary