

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 5, 2012

4:30 PM

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

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ezekiel called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron St.

ROLL CALL

Present 5 - Dan Ezekiel, Commissioner Laura Rubin, Catherine Riseng, Liz Rother, and Shannon Brines

Absent 4 - Tom Bloomer, Peter Allen, Carsten Hohnke, and Archer H. Christian

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Riseng, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the Agenda be approved with the following changes:

Move: Public Commentary ahead of AATA Presentation

Move: Closed Session (consider after Special Presentation)

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

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 integration of a transit support system for all of Washtenaw County.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. Ann Arbor Transit Authority – Countywide Transit Plan

Michael Ford, of the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (AATA), gave a slide presentation about public transportation. He said that AATA has been working on improving transportation options for citizens of Washtenaw County for the last two years. They completed a 30 year vision last year and are now working with local governments on a near term implementation and the setting up of a new authority. Mr. Ford provided the commission with pamphlets and other documents regarding its Transit Improvement 5 year Program, a copy of which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUS LAND ACQUISITION

A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

12-0927 Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2012

A motion was made by Commissioner Rubin, seconded by Commissioner Riseng, that the Minutes be approved by the Commission and forwarded. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

B OLD BUSINESS

None.

C NEW BUSINESS

1. Staff Update

Ginny Trocchio, said that she heard from the USDA Farm and Ranchland Protection Program on four applications they submitted to them back in March of 2012. The State awarded funds for two of the four properties they submitted and will receive approximately \$397,000.00 for the two properties. She added that those two properties would be moving forward to City Council for consideration.

Ms. Trocchio updated the commission on the Joe Block property. She said that Washtenaw County recently closed on the property which the City and Pittsfield Township partnered with. The property is located on Joy Road, just east of Whitmore Lake Road. Preserving this property add to the existing nature preserve as well as to the City's block of land that has been protected in that area.

Ms. Trocchio said that City Council also confirmed the appointment of Archer Christian as a new Greenbelt Advisory Commissioner. Ms. Christian will join the commission in August, 2012.

Ms. Trocchio attended the Mayor's Green Fair along with other GAC members. She thanked the commissioners for coming out to the Fair. The next event coming up for the Greenbelt is the Greenbelt Bus Tour which is scheduled for September 22, 2012. More information should be provided at next month's meeting.

D NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None.

E REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None.

F COMMUNICATIONS

None.

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

Thomas Partridge, addressed the commission regarding funding for and preserving greenbelt properties and his running for a seat as a State Representative.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Rother, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the meeting be adjourned. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.