



CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2010

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. at the Washtenaw County Administration Building in the County Board of Commission Public Meeting Room, 220 N. Main St., Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. by Chair S. Rosencrans.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (8) S. Rosencrans, J. Lawter, S. Offen, T. Berla, D. Barrett, G. Nystuen, D. Chapman, K. Levin

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

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (0) None.

Members Absent: (1) J. Grand

Staff Present: (7) C. Smith, J. Straw, C. Hupy, P. Simmons, M. Warba, D. McGuire, L. Bowen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Lawter asked for approval of the agenda. G. Nystuen asked if there could be discussion to present a resolution on the next agenda.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

T. Staples updated the Commission regarding the ongoing plans and fundraising pertaining to the proposed skate park.

E. Sketch spoke in support of Mack Pool being reinstated in the proposed budget.

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Rosencrans asked for a motion to approve the current minutes.

Commissioner Nystuen moved, supported by **Commissioner Levin** to approve the minutes. The minutes of March 16, 2010 was approved with a correction on line 53. The minutes were approved unanimously with the noted correction.

SPECIALPRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING

B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C - NEW BUSINESS

57 C-1 Election of PAC Officers

58
59 G. Nystuen moved to nominate Commissioner Julie Grand for the position of Chair,
60 supported by S. Offen

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62 T. Berla asked how long would the term be for the newly elected chair.

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64 S. Rosencrans stated, until September 2010. The question was raised if there was a
65 need to take any action pertaining to the Vice Chair. The Commission agreed John
66 Lawter would remain the Vice Chair.

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68 **By secret ballot Commissioner Julie Grand was unanimously elected to**
69 **hold the office of Chair for the Park Advisory Commission.**

70
71 C-2 Resolution to approve fiscal year 2011 fee adjustments for Parks and Recreation
72 Services

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74 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2011 FEE ADJUSTMENTS
75 FOR PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

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77 Whereas, Parks and Recreation Services have reviewed all of their fees as part of the FY11 budget
78 submittal; and

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80 RESOLVED, That fees for Parks and Recreation Services be adjusted according to the attached
81 schedules;

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83 RESOLVED, That the attached fee schedules become effective according to the dates in the
84 attached schedules; and

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86 RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission recommends that the Mayor and City Council
87 approve the proposed fees.

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89 Prepared by: Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Services Manager
90 Submitted by: Parks & Recreation Services
91 Date: April 12, 2010

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93 C. Smith gave an overview of the proposed fee changes to the Commission.

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95 S. Rosencrans moved, supported by K. Levin to bring the Resolution to discussion,
96 the Commission agreed unanimously.

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98 G. Nystuen complimented staff on their hard work pertaining to the proposed fee
99 changes.

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101 S. Offen stated he felt the increases proposed were fair and competitive.

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104 Ayes: (8) S. Rosencrans, J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, T. Berla,
105 D. Chapman, K. Levin, S. Offen, D. Barrett

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107 Nays: (0) None

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109 Absent: (1) J. Grand

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111 On a roll call vote in addition to a show of hands – **Motion Passed** to approve fiscal
112 year 2011 fee adjustments for Parks and Recreation Services

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C-3

Fiscal year 2011 proposed Parks budget.

C. Smith shared a Power Point presentation pertaining to the proposed FY 2011 budget to the Commission.

S. Rosencrans complimented staff for their efforts regarding the budget

G. Nystuen asked if M. Warba would elaborate on the proposed changes to the mowing schedule.

S. Rosencrans asked if it was 15 or 17 parks identified for reduced maintenance in the proposed budget.

M. Warba explained the plans regarding maintenance of those parks to the Commission in depth, along with mowing impacts.

S. Offen asked if the list of parks where there are proposed changes had been made public.

C. Smith stated yes.

D. Barrett asked if snow removal is reduced if there would be legal issues.

M. Warba explained the main paths including paths that lead to schools will continue to be maintained.

T. Berla asked if potential Livery revenue reductions due to the Argo Dam MDNRE order had been factored in the proposed budget.

C. Smith explained there is a contingency in the proposed budget regarding this situation.

S. Rosencrans asked how the budget cuts would impact Natural Area Preservation.

G. Nystuen suggested an explanation be given regarding the budget cuts and the impact this could have on the Natural Area Preservation.

S. Offen explained this issue in depth to the Commission.

D. Barrett asked what would be done to convey any budget impacts to the public.

C. Smith stated staff would work to develop a communication plan once Council approves the budget.

G. Nystuen complimented C. Smith regarding the improved accuracy in budget forecasting.

S. Offen moved, supported by J. Lawter to discuss the Resolution to approve the 2011 proposed Parks budget.

S. Offen read Resolution to the Commission to approve the 2011 proposed Parks budget.

T. Berla asked for an explanation regarding the volunteer outreach coordinator position.

171 **C. Smith** stated it will be a permanent position that replaces a vacant Park Planner
172 position.

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174 **S. Offen** asked when this position will be filled.

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176 **C. Smith** stated the position will not be posted until after the FY 2011 budget is
177 approved.

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179 **G. Nystuen** proposed an amendment to the Budget Resolution due to concern over
180 the proposed reduction and rollback in funding for NAP.

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182 **G. Nystuen** moved supported by T. Berla to remove item #1 of the first resolved
183 clause.

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185 **S. Rosencrans** asked the Commission to vote for approval of the amendment to the
186 Resolution.

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188 **Ayes: (1) G. Nystuen**

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190 **Nays: (7) S. Rosencrans, J. Lawter, T. Berla,**
191 **D. Chapman, K. Levin, S. Offen, D. Barrett**

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193 **Absent: (1) J. Grand**

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195 *On a voice vote in addition to a show of hands – **Motion Failed** – on amendment to*
196 *remove item #1 of the first resolved clause from the Resolution*

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198 **S. Rosencrans** asked if there was any further discussion regarding the original
199 Resolution. Being none there was a roll call vote for the approval of the original
200 resolution.

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202 **PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION RESOLUTION ON THE FY 2011 PARKS BUDGET**

203
204 Whereas, a vibrant, extensive, and healthy parks system is part of every great town and city;

205 Whereas, Ann Arbor residents value their parks, natural areas and recreational facilities and support
206 these amenities through their taxes;

207 Whereas, PAC commends staff for their efforts to include PAC members in the budget process as
208 early as possible and as much as possible, and in producing an overall fair and reasonable budget
209 draft that follows PAC's recommended budget priorities to preserve the most affordable facilities and
210 activities for the most number of residents, especially children, low income residents, and seniors,
211 particularly where these services are not otherwise available; and

212 **RESOLVED**, That PAC recommends that City Council approve the Parks budget developed by staff
213 noting the following changes from the 2010 budget and preliminary 2011 plan:

- 214 1. Suspend the 3% annual increase in the budget for Natural Area Preservation (NAP)
215 specified in Council Resolution #R-449-10-06 effectively eliminating an unfilled position
216 and reducing the number of hours worked by temporary employees;
- 217 2. Allow the funding distribution of the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage
218 to permit Parks trimming activity to be covered by millage revenue;
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3. Shift tree planting expenses to the Storm Water Fund;
4. Receive funds from Community Development Block Grants to help offset payment to Community Action Network for the management of the Bryant Community Center;
5. Significantly reduce park maintenance, other than right-of-way obligations, for several small parks;
6. Replace the vacant Park Planner position with a Volunteer Outreach Coordinator;
7. Reinstate the Mack Pool operation based on the recommendations of the Mack Pool Task Force;
8. Reinstate the Ann Arbor Senior Center based on the recommendations of the Senior Center Task Force.

**Ayes: (7) T. Berla, D. Chapman, J. Lawter, S. Rosencrans,
S. Offen, K. Levin, D. Barrett**

Nays: (1) G. Nystuen

Absent: (1) J. Grand

*On a roll call vote – **Motion Passed** - to approve fiscal year 2011 proposed Parks budget.*

D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS

G. Nystuen shared a resolution on Fuller Road Station with the commissioners and asked that it be an agenda item for the May PAC meeting.

E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

C. Smith complimented and expressed appreciation to staff regarding their hard work on the budget.

F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

C. Hupy also complimented and expressed appreciation to staff on their hard work regarding the budget.

G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

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

S. Offen asked the status of the RFP for Huron Hills Golf Course.

C. Smith stated staff is working on a draft RFP, when the draft is completed it will be shared with the Golf Task Force and then PAC for review and input.

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

J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH PRIVELEDGED CLIENT ATTORNEY INFORMATION

K - TRANSMITTALS

278 **K-1** City Council Items Update

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280 **K-2** Park Project Update

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

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285 There being no further business to come before the **Commissioner Rosencrans** moved supported
286 by **Commissioner Levin** that the open meeting be adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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