



# City of Ann Arbor

## Formal Minutes

### Park Advisory Commission

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

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Tuesday, March 20, 2018

4:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second Floor, City Council chambers

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**A CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair D. Santacroce called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.*

**B ROLL CALL**

*Staff Present: H. Hanzel, J. Landefeld, C. Smith, S. Spooner, and A. Walton.*

**Present:** 10 - Alan Jackson, Robert Galardi, David Santacroce, Paige Morrison, Stephen Borgsdorf, Julie Grand, Praveena Ramaswami, Mike Appel, Ruth L. Kraut, and Graydon Krapohl

**Absent:** 1 - Lauren London

**C APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Unanimously approved as presented.**

**D APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**D-1**     [18-0400](#)   Minutes of the January 23, 2018 PAC Meeting

**Attachments:**   1-23-2018 PAC Minutes .pdf

**Unanimously approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council.**

**D-2**     [18-0401](#)   Park Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2018

**Attachments:**   2-6-2018 PAC Minutes .pdf

**Unanimously approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council.**

**E PUBLIC COMMENTARY - (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

*None.*

**F SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS****F-1 [18-0474](#) Annual Golf Course Presentation**

*S. Spooner and A. Walton presented information on the environmental practices that have been implemented at Leslie Park and Huron Hills Golf Courses. Spooner explained that Leslie Park Golf Course is a certified Audubon International Cooperative Sanctuary and a Michigan Turfgrass Steward. He added that Huron Hills is not currently certified but steps have been taken to begin the process. During the presentation Spooner explained the different improvement initiatives that have taken place. He highlighted plant diversity, wildlife habitats, outreach, education, and water conservation, quality, and management. Spooner also discussed chemical use reduction, initiatives to positively impact local bees, controlled burns, youth programs, and updates to software.*

*P. Ramaswami inquired about golf club rentals and golf lessons for children and adults.*

*S. Spooner answered that lessons and club rentals offered for children and adults.*

*R. Kraut inquired about initiatives taken at Huron Hills Golf Course to work towards certification.*

*S. Spooner explained that Huron Hills is currently enrolled and is working on becoming certified. He added the management practices of the courses are the same.*

*A. Jackson inquired about electric carts at the courses.*

*S. Spooner explained that at this time electric carts aren't possible due to electric carts needing indoor storage.*

*C. Smith added that a bid was put out in the past to determine cost for constructing indoor storage for the carts and the cost was too high at the time. He added that the option will continue to be explored.*

*M. Appel added that he will be able to discuss the issue with the*

*Environmental Commission.*

*C. Smith added that the Leslie Park Golf Course is the largest park in Ann Arbor and it's important to think about it as a park as well as a golf course.*

**F-2**      **18-0475**      Bandemer to Barton Connection

**Attachments:**      2018-0320 Barton-Bandemer Study.pdf

*H. Hanzel introduced the project, explaining the need for a pedestrian and bicycle tunnel under the existing railway between Barton Nature Area and Bandemer Park. She described the need for an updated feasibility study. Hanzel stated that the railway is now publicly owned by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and is a federally designated high speed corridor, which means faster and more frequent trains. Hanzel explained that in 2005 it was determined that a concrete trestle would be the best method for the tunnel, and that the project was not pursued due to insufficient funding.*

*C. Vaughn, Washtenaw County Parks Director gave an overview of the Border-to-Border trail.*

*P. Sanderson, Washtenaw County Park Planner explained that the majority of the trail is partnership based, he explained current projects as well as upcoming projects. He described the project proposal in more detail, explaining that the two primary components are to update the feasibility study, and the comprehensive design and engineering for a pathway through the Barton Nature Area.*

*M. Appel inquired using existing infrastructure in the Barton Hills area.*

*C. Vaughn explained that due to cost and the amount of work necessary, that area is not considered a better option. He explained that the proposed location for the bicycle and pedestrian tunnel is favorable due to its high traffic location.*

*R. Kraut expressed support for the proposed project and suggested expanding trails to be 12 feet in width.*

*C. Vaughn explained that the intention is to create 10 foot wide trails with 2 foot shoulders.*

*G. Krapohl inquired about the projected costs for the project.*

*C. Vaughn answered that the cost will vary widely depending on the method used for construction. He explained that costs range in 2.5 million and 4.5 million, depending on soil, size, and materials. He added that after the feasibility study the cost will be clearer.*

*C. Smith added that there are more existing funds for a project of this nature than there ever have been.*

*S. Borgsdorf discussed widening bridges and making other improvements in the context of this project.*

*C. Vaughn answered that those improvements aren't being considered as part of this project at this time.*

*M. Appel added that it would be beneficial to explore other locations for a connection due to the high cost.*

*A. Jackson inquired about the involvement of the Park's Advisory Commission's (PAC) involvement in the process of constructing this project.*

*C. Smith explained that the funds for updating the feasibility study are in the approved budget. He also added that it might be helpful for PAC to support a letter of intent.*

## **G NEW BUSINESS**

- G-1**      [18-0402](#)      Resolution to recommend approval of a Service Contract with Northwest Pools, Inc. for On-Call Pool Mechanical Services at the City Pools for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 annually for FY 18-20 with a Two Year Renewal Option not to exceed \$75,000.00 annually for FY 20-22.

**Attachments:**      PAC - Pool opening RFP 2018 .pdf

*J. Landefeld explained the resolution to recommend approval of a service contract agreement with Northwest Pools. He explained staff is working hard to maintain the pools. Landefeld added that the bid received was from Northwest Pools, and explained that they have performed services for the pools in the City of Ann Arbor for many years. He added that the process for repairs and services will be faster and the work done on the pools would be consistent due to one company doing all required work.*

**A motion was made by Santacroce, and seconded by Morrison that the resolution be approved by the Commission.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

*Whereas, The Parks & Recreation Services utilizes pool services companies to open, close and provide in season maintenance to ensure the four city pools function,*

*Whereas, Having a single company on call will provide consistent and quality maintenance and save the city time and money;*

*Whereas, The City issued Request for Proposal #18-05 for On-Call Pool Mechanical Services at the City Pools and one bid was received, with the proposal from Northwest Pools, Inc. being selected;*

*Whereas, Funding is available in the approved FY 18 Parks Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage;*

*Whereas – Northwest Pools, Inc. has submitted all required Non-Discrimination, Prevailing Wage, Living Wage, and Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms and complies with the requirements of the City's Non-Discrimination, Prevailing Wage and Living Wage Ordinances;*

*RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend approval of a Service Contract with Northwest Pools, Inc. for On-Call Pool Mechanical Services at the City Pools for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 annually for FY 18 – 20 with a Two Year Renewal Option not to exceed \$75,000.00 annually for FY 20 – 22 subject to funding for that fiscal year.*

*Commission Discussion:*

*R. Galardi inquired about receiving only one bid.*

*J. Landefeld answered that the bid was put out in the standard process.*

*C. Smith added that there aren't many pool companies, and there have been some issues with the quality that was provided by some of the companies that chose not to bid.*

*A. Jackson inquired about the rate of payment proposed compared to the*

*current rates, as well as the impact of being contracted with only one company.*

*J. Landefeld answered that the rates are consistent with what is being paid currently, and that the contract is non-exclusive.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion passed.**

**Vote: 8-0**

**Yeas:** 8 - Jackson, Galardi, Santacroce, Morrison, Borgsdorf, Ramaswami, Appel, and RAC Rep. Kraut

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - London

**H COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

*Commissioner Mike Appel was appointed to serve as the Parks Advisory Commission Liaison to the Environmental Commission.*

**I REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

*C. Smith explained that the hiring process for spring, summer, and fall work has started. He added that the golf courses are in the process of opening, construction has started at the Bryant Community Center, and that later in the spring when it is warmer the pickle ball courts will be finished. He also explained that pre-construction meetings for the Veteran's Park pool liner and filtration system have taken place. C. Smith also mentioned the Earth Day events occurring at the Leslie Park Science and Nature Center. He also provided information on 2018 camp registration, stating that revenue and registration has increased greatly since 2017.*

**J REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

*None.*

**K REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASKFORCES**

*None.*

**L PUBLIC COMMENTARY - (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

*None.*

**M CLOSED SESSION**

*None.*

**N TRANSMITTALS**

**N-1**     [18-0477](#)   Park Planning Capital Project Update

**Attachments:**   2018-03 PAC Update.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**N-2**     [18-0478](#)   PAC Council Update

**Attachments:**   PAC COUNCIL UPDATE 3\_2018.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**N-3**     [18-0479](#)   Parks Project Status Table

**Attachments:**   Parks\_Project\_Status\_Table-FY2017-18.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**O ADJOURNMENT**

**Unanimously adjourned.**