

City of Ann Arbor

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

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

9:00 AM

This meeting is Audio only. To speak at public comment call:

877-853-5247

Webinar ID: 951 2635 1290

Electronic Meeting

Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wieland called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

ROLL CALL

- *Chairman Richard Wieland - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Kimberley Sundy - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Brooks Curtis - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Samuel Rosewig - Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor Charter Township, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Robertson Davenport - Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Lynn Nybell - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*

Staff present: Nicholas Jacob, Urban and Community Forester; Jamie Pauline, Urban Forest Partnership and Outreach Coordinator, administrative staff liaison to the EDFC; Sarah Alanis, Chief Deputy City Clerk

Present 6 - Lynn Nybell, Richard Wieland, Kimberley Sundy, Brooks Curtis, Samuel Rosewig, and Robert Davenport

Absent 1 - David Penland

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Change "Arbor Oaks Park - Richard Wieland" item to "Arbor Oaks Park and Tree Nursery - Richard Wieland and Nicholas Jacob."

Member Rosewig motioned to approve the agenda with the proposed change. Member Sundy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 14th, 2025

Change: Remove Tiffany Giacobazzi from attendance.

Member Curtis motioned to approve the minutes with the proposed change. Member Davenport seconded. Motion was approved

unanimously.

25-2070 Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Draft Meeting Minutes - October 14th, 2025

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 18th, 2025

Changes:

- Remove Tiffany Giacobazzi's name from the attendance.*
- Correct spelling of Member Sundy's first name from "Kimberely" to "Kimberley."*

Member Sundy motioned to approve the minutes with changes.

Member Curtis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

25-2071 Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Draft Meeting Minutes - November 18th, 2025

BUSINESS

Meeting Guidelines - Sarah Alanis

Sarah Alanis attended to explain Open Meetings Act compliance.

- The appearance of any violation of the OMA should be avoided.*
- Site visits should be limited to three members to stay below quorum. If a quorum of members will attend a site visit or other event, a public notice must be posted at least 18 hours prior to the meeting time, with the city requesting the notice be published at least two days ahead.*
- The EDFC could establish a community engagement subcommittee, which would bring its reports to meetings to be made public.*
- Communication between the EDFC and city staff, boards, and commissions should be handled by the staff liaison. City staff submitting proposals should contact the staff liaison.*
- If there are doubts about communications with non-city persons or entities, the staff liaison should be looped in.*
- Committee members should not "reply all" to emails to avoid the*

chance/appearance of deliberation and/or decision-making outside a public meeting.

- Committee members are permitted to talk project proposal applicants through the process of applying and provide basic information/outreach.

Bylaw Discussion - Sarah Alanis

- Per a city council resolution, board/commission bylaws are being standardized across the city. Sarah is working on the EDFC's bylaws and will consult with Legal. EDFC will receive the results to review.

- Conflict-of-interest issues are handled on a case-by-case basis. Questions should be submitted in writing to Sarah for review by Legal.

Sarah Alanis left the meeting at 9:54am.

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

The committee decided to skip installing signage at Barton-Bandemer.

Members Rosewig and Sundry left the meeting at 10:00am. Quorum was maintained.

26-0081 EDFC Staff Report: January 2026

Parks Update - Jamie Pauline

- Per communications with Parks, "all future communications and approvals regarding the strategic planning, selection, or placement of trees in open space should be directed to [Adam Fercho and Hillary Hanzel]."

- The Mushroom Park oak has been removed due to senescence-related deterioration. Victor Morales reported that there are plans to build a playscape from the oak's wood. Any potential plantings would need to wait until at least FY2027, pending approval from Parks.

Leslie Park Golf Course Orchard - Jamie Pauline

- Jamie Pauline reported poor condition of mature trees due to aging as well as mechanical damage to the bases of younger trees.

- Committee was concerned about public accessibility. They would like Jamie to reach out to Doug Kelly and inquire about the possibility of establishing a public event for community involvement.

Arbor Oaks Park and Tree Nursery - Richard Wieland and Nicholas Jacob

Bryant neighborhood is installing a geothermal system with hopes of completion by 2028. Parks told Pauline not to plant anything in Arbor Oaks Park because it's anticipated that construction would disturb any new plantings.

Chairman Wieland proposed spading small trees that would be affected by construction in Arbor Oaks and moving them to the abandoned municipal nursery for installation elsewhere on city property. Nicholas Jacob reported that about 20 trees would be eligible for such a procedure. Maintenance would need to be done on the nursery, and Parks would need to approve any action. Cost for this operation is unknown at this time.

Wheeler Park - Brooks Curtis

- Member Curtis proposed grouping trees to minimize mowing complications. Jacob suggested planting small forests. Pauline will follow up with Parks on the idea.

- Pauline will consult with Adam Fercho on the planting of listed vacant sites.

Member Curtis left the meeting at 10:30am. Quorum was lost.

Financial Overview - Richard Wieland

The committee did not have time to attend to this topic.

[26-0003](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Budget Report: December 2025

[26-0055](#) EDFC Budget Report - January 2026

[26-0004](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Longer Term Plan and Priorities - January 13th, 2026 (Version A)

EDFC Thesis - Richard Wieland

The committee did not have time to attend to this topic.

Brief Discussion on Hikone Rd - Jamie Pauline

The committee did not have time to attend to this topic.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

All persons are encouraged to participate in public meetings. Citizens requiring translation or sign language services or other reasonable accommodations may contact the City Clerk's office at 734.794.6140; via e-mail to: cityclerk@a2gov.org; or by written request addressed and mailed or delivered to:

City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.

No members of the public attended, and no comment was submitted.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- *Leslie Golf Course orchard*
- *Bylaws*
- *Hikone Road proposal*
- *Parks update*
- *Financial overview*
- *EDFC thesis*

ADJOURNMENT

Due to loss of quorum, there was no vote to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 10:45am.