

# **City of Ann Arbor**

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
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## **Meeting Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

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

**877-853-5247**

**Webinar ID: 99642895904**

**Electronic Meeting**

**Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*Chairman Wieland called the meeting to order at 9:02am.*

**ROLL CALL**

*-Chairman Richard Wieland: participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan*  
*-Member Lynn Nybell: participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan*  
*-Member Robertson Davenport: participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan*  
*-Member Brooks Curtis: participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan*  
*-Member David Penland: participating remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan*

*Note 1: Paul Matthews is the acting staff liaison until a permanent replacement for Tiffany Giacobazzi is hired.*

*Staff in attendance: Jamie Pauline, urban forestry intern; Cara Arheit, Public works administrative manager*

**Present**    5 -    Lynn Nybell, Richard Wieland, Brooks Curtis, David Penland, and Robert Davenport

**Absent**     3 -    Tiffany Giacobazzi, Kimberley Sundy, and Samuel Rosewig

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Add:*

*-Add elm tree treatments after 3-year plan review.*

**Curtis motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Davenport seconded the motion. Agenda was approved unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Change:*

*-Page 4: "Parks may approach" to "Pocket forest organizers may approach."*

*-Page 4: "in West Park" to "across Ann Arbor" (elm tree treatments).*

**25-0337**

Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Meeting Minutes for January 14th, 2025 - Final

**Curtis motioned to approve the minutes with the changes. Davenport seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.**

## **BUSINESS**

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

*Paul Matthews will serve as staff liaison until a permanent replacement for Tiffany Giacobazzi is hired. Pauline will talk to Matthews about what his role/involvement will entail.*

*The Mayor's Green Fair will be held on September 19th from 5-8pm.*

*The date for Huron River Days is still to be determined.*

**25-0261** February 2025 Staff Report

Budget Reports - Jamie Pauline

**25-0259** February 2025 Budget Report

*Budgets were incorporated into Wieland's 3-year plan review.*

**25-0260** February 2025 Budget Report and Project Breakdown

3-Year Plan Review - Richard Wieland

*Current fiscal year has approximately \$19,166 available. Committee will think of ideas for next month's meetings.*

*Buhr Park pocket forest organizers might approach the Committee for \$500 worth of funding.*

*FY2026 Project Ideas*

*-Adopt-A-Park volunteers are looking for trees. Approach them to see what volume they're looking for and supporting the volunteers. Curtis will reach out to open the conversation.*

*-Public places: Explore plantings at public locations such as libraries, playgrounds, and park benches.*

*-Past project tree planting: Pauline will look at past projects for replacement planting needs with the help of the committee. Inspection will take place in spring after trees leaf out.*

### **Elm Tree Treatments**

*Elm treatments will depend on Guardian tree report and whether EDFC wants to continue treatment. Committee might consider trees across the city. Pauline will investigate whether elms highlighted in "Beauty Is in the Eye of the Tree-holder" are on public property and reach out to Guardian to make a list of elms on public property.*

Equity Planting Update - Jamie Pauline

#### **25-0276** South Maple Project Update: Transit Corridor

*The committee will postpone most of the proposed plantings in the S Maple area in anticipation of construction related to the proposed transit corridor.*

*Nybell suggests considering planting additional trees at Garden Homes Park.*

**Wieland motioned to approve spending an amount not exceeding \$7,000 on the planting of 13 trees and their subsequent watering on Carolina Ave, Winewood Ave, Garden Cir, and Thaler Ave.. Curtis seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **25-0280** Housing Commission Vacancy Maps

*Nybell suggested asking Lurie Terrace about potential landscaping plans before proceeding with any planting the Dean Fund.*

*Wieland pointed out that watering would extend into next fiscal year.*

**Wieland moved approve the planting of a maximum of 37 trees near Housing Commission locations and provide for their watering for a total not exceeding \$20,000. Curtis seconded the motion. The**

**motion was approved unanimously.**

**25-0297** Bus Stop Vacancy Maps and Street Views

- Trees should not be planted to close to the road to avoid obstructing buses or view of waiting riders. AAATA requested that positioning is considered if the tree is being planted "upstream."*
- Arheit highlighted the possibility of solid waste trucks hitting new trees.*
- Arheit pointed out that repaving was done along E Ellsworth recently, which might be why the Ellsworth + Varsity stop has so many vacancies, and that the Research Park + Ellsworth stop is outside the Social Security Administration building and sees high traffic.*
- Curtis suggested moving the large vacancy at Research Park + Ellsworth slightly to increase visibility.*
- Davenport suggested following up on potential renovation plans for a building near one of the stops.*
- Pauline will consider more data provided by AAATA and Rosewig.*
- Pauline will reach out to Margolis about the S Maple, Housing Commission, and possible bus stop work to inquire whether they can fit in the extra work.*
- Vote will be tabled until March meeting.*

AAATA Outreach Status - Sam Rosewig

*Rosewig sent a list of stops where AAATA would like trees planted. Pauline will review the list.*

Buhr Park Pocket Forest Watering - Richard Wieland

*As addressed in the 3-year plan discussion, pocket forest organizers might approach the EDFC for approximately \$500 worth of funding.*

Adopt-A-Park Outreach Status - Brooks Curtis

*Parks is interested in support for trees, but a quantity has not been determined. These would be potential fall plantings and would fall into next year's budget.*

Mushroom Park Oak - Jamie Pauline

*EDFC is interested in supporting succession planting when the Mushroom Park oak is removed. \$5,100 was penciled in for planting and*

*watering last meeting but not voted on.*

*Nybell is interested in a ceremony to honor the tree when it is removed, as it has cultural significance in the city.*

FY2026 Project Discussion - Jamie Pauline

- Collaboration with Parks*
- Bicentennial Park – already been voted on (\$11k)*
- Mushroom Park (tentative for next year)*
- Library plantings*
- Replacement plantings (pursuant to investigation results)*
- Leslie Park – tentative \$2500 plus watering (\$3.2k) in latter half of 2025*
- Elm treatment – dependent upon Guardian report and EDFC wants to continue*
- Leslie Park Food Forest – followup*
- Leslie Park - large tree maintenance*
- Investigate mini-forest opportunities/keep ears open. Nothing radar so far.*
- Budget \$90k next year, then \$90k year after, \$75k to contract each year*
- Arbor Day funds could be spent on Bicentennial Park (\$900 yearly tentatively allotted)*
- West Park – tree loss, historic neighborhood, culturally significant, high use, abuts Lurie Terrace*
- Curtis suggests coordinating with A2Zero's Arbor Day activities. Pauline will reach out to ask.*

Outreach Events - Jamie Pauline

Gallup Park Sign - Jamie Pauline

*No updates on the sign since last meeting.*

Temporary Signage - Jamie Pauline

*Adam Fercho has returned from paternity leave. He will provide feedback on the selected design.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)**

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City Clerk's Office  
301 E. Huron St.  
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#### **NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**

- Signage (Gallup and temporary)*
- Vote on bus stop plantings*
- Guardian tree report*
- Adopt-A-Park*
- 3-year plan*

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Nybell moved to adjourn the meeting. Curtis seconded the motion.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:41am.