

City of Ann Arbor

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

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

9:00 AM

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

877-853-5247

Webinar ID: 951 2635 1290.

~~Electronic Meeting~~

The June 10th meeting was rescheduled to June 24th at 9:00am

Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee
~~due to last-minute technical difficulties.~~

The meeting on June 10th was rescheduled to this date because of technical difficulties.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:01am.

ROLL CALL

- *Chairman Richard Wieland: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Samuel Rosewig: Washtenaw Community College campus, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Robertson Davenport: Michigan Medicine, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Lynn Nybell: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Brooks Curtis: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member David Penland: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- *Member Kimberley Sundry: absent*

Staff present: Nicholas Jacob (Urban Forestry and Natural Resources Planning Coordinator, interim), Jamie Pauline (Urban Forestry Intern)

Present 6 - Lynn Nybell, Richard Wieland, Brooks Curtis, Samuel Rosewig, David Penland, and Robert Davenport

Absent 2 - Tiffany Giacobazzi, and Kimberley Sundry

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Add:

- *Comprehensive Land Use Plan update - Brooks Curtis*

Member Curtis moved to approve the agenda with changes. Member Rosewig seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Change:

- *Member Curtis did not attend Huron River Days; Member Rosewig attended (top of page 3, Staff Report).*

Member Curtis moved to approve the minutes with changes. Member Davenport seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

[25-1166](#) Draft EDFC Meeting Minutes - May 13th, 2025

[25-1263](#) May 13th, 2025 Meeting Minutes - Revised

BUSINESS

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

- *Chairman Wieland reports that the Green Fair will be September 19th from 5-8pm.*
- *Huron River Days was well-attended.*
- *The permanent sign for the Elizabeth Dean Grove was found. The committee would like Parks to install the permanent sign at their convenience and save the temporary sign as a backup.*
- *As noted in the changes to the minutes of the previous meeting, Member Curtis did not attend Huron River Days, but Member Rosewig did. An updated copy of the staff report is attached to reflect this correction.*

[25-1159](#) EDFC Staff Report - June 10th, 2025

Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update - Brooks Curtis

[25-1167](#) Design for EDFC Temporary Sign

Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update - Brooks Curtis

The committee is concerned about the phrase "manage the Elizabeth Dean Fund." Chairman Wieland will follow up and push for the language "in partnership with the Elizabeth Dean Fund."

Budget Report - Jamie Pauline

[25-1160](#) EDFC Budget Report - June 2nd, 2025

3-Year Plan Review - Richard Wieland

Projects Budget and Breakdown - Jamie Pauline

The material this section would have covered was included in the Longer Term Plan and Priorities section and document.

25-1169 FY2025 Projects and Budget Breakdown - June 2025

25-1235 Elizabeth Dean Fund Longer Term Plan and Priorities - June 24, 2025

Barton-Bandemer Motion

Member Nybell moved to approve the planting and watering of twenty trees at the Barton-Bandemer pedestrian tunnel for an amount not to exceed \$11,629. Member Penland seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

South Maple Park Motion

Member Rosewig motioned to approve \$3,500 for the planting and watering of 6 trees in South Maple Park in FY2026. Member Curtis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Exploring Planting Localized Tree Varieties/Preserving Heirloom Genetics - Sam Rosewig

Member Rosewig discussed the possibility of focusing on native local genotypes in tree planting. The possibility of cultivating these specimens was floated. Pauline will check the status and parameters of the grant to investigate feasibility of doing this.

Elm Tree Treatments - Nicholas Jacob and Jamie Pauline

The committee reviewed the estimates provided by three tree care companies (Davey, Safari, and Guardian).

Pauline will reach out to the homeowners where three of the elms are located to ensure their consent to having their trees chosen. One of these trees will be treated as a backup option in the event that a homeowner refuses treatment or a tree is determined unsuitable for treatment.

Note: Member Rosewig left the meeting at 10:15am. Member Davenport

left the meeting at 10:05am due to a disaster drill. Quorum was maintained after each departure.

Member Curtis motioned to approve an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for the treatment of three elm trees, one of which will be the elm at 1410 Wells (Burns Park), at a time of Davey's choosing within FY2026. Chairman Wieland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

[25-1164](#) Safari Tree Elm Treatment Bid - June 2025

[25-1173](#) Davey Elm Treatment Proposal - June 2025

[25-1175](#) Guardian Elm Treatment Proposal - June 2025

[25-1177](#) EDFC Elm Project Quote Form

Outreach Events - Richard Wieland

This topic was addressed in the staff report.

Food Forest - Richard Wieland

- *Chairman Wieland reached out to Arrowwood and True Earth about the food forest in Leslie Park. His contact at True Earth is Shunahshii Rose.*
- *True Earth's contact at Parks is Remy Long.*
- *When contacted, Arrowwood expressed interest in using the food forest as a learning opportunity for the children.*
- *The committee has decided to wait for a proposal to be submitted and then review it.*

[25-1165](#) Leslie Food Forest 2021 Proposal

Library Plantings - Richard Wieland

Discussion was postponed to the next meeting due to time constraints.

Avalon Housing Followup - Richard Wieland

Avalon's maintenance crew returned with six sites for planting.

Carrot Way/Food Gatherers presents the largest planting opportunity, with additional opportunities near 610 W Summit and Pauline Apartments/Bunyan Bryant Apartments. As things stand now, Hickory Way and W William do not have viable planting sites.

Additional concerns include the possibility of the city redoing the sidewalks on Dhu Varren and Food Gatherers' request that plantings not block the building. Member Nybell expressed interest in planting a tree in memoriam of Bunyan Bryant as part of this project.

Avalon will be invited to a future meeting (most likely in September) to weigh in on the plantings.

25-1227 Avalon Housing Overview Maps (V2)

Deer Damage Mitigation and Replacements - Richard Wieland

Chairman Wieland installed protective PVC tubing on some trees in Leslie Park. Pauline will reach out to Parks to check in about the removal of the chicken wire at Baxter Park, then contact Wieland to install the tubing.

Soldiers Row - Jamie Pauline

Pauline revisited Soldiers Row since trees have leafed out. She found that 55 percent of the trees are healthy; 22 percent are struggling or dying; and 7.67 percent each are dead, gone, or of unknown status. The most likely cause of the poor health and deaths of the trees is mechanical damage from grass maintenance.

Some solutions for preventing and mitigating damage to trees were discussed.

- Member Curtis suggested requesting that Parks expand the mulch beds around the trees to create a larger buffer between the tree and the grass.*
- Chairman Wieland suggested that the trees be protected with PVC pipe. Jacob said that this would allow the tree to grow, and that at the point where the tree outgrows the pipe, the cambium layer should be thicker and better able to withstand injuries from lawn equipment.*
- Chairman Wieland proposed that Parks works with the EDFC by maintaining what is already there (e.g., mulching, protection, bed expansion) in exchange for the EDFC replacing dead and missing trees.*

Parks would need to make a formal proposal.

The Treeline - Richard Wieland

Discussion was postponed until the next meeting due to time constraints.

Bicentennial Park and LSNC Phase 2 Update - Richard Wieland

Minor update:

- There was a preconstruction meeting for Bicentennial Park in the first week of June.*
- Adam Fercho believes that the park might be ready for tree planting in the spring of 2026.*

There is no update on LSNC Phase 2 yet.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

No one attended to make a public comment.

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.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- Treeline*
- City parks equity*
- Update on elms*
- Update on Comprehensive Land Use Plan*
- Library plantings*
- Arrowwood/Food Forest*
- Bicentennial Park and LSNC Phase 2 updates*
- Update on FY2025 expenditures*

ADJOURNMENT

Member Curtis motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Nybell seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:05am.