

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Action Minutes

Thursday, June 6, 2013

4:30 PM

City Hall, 301 E. Huron St., 2nd Floor, Council Chambers

Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ezekiel called the meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission to order at 4:32 p.m. in the Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, 301 E. Huron St.

ROLL CALL

Present 8 - Tom Bloomer, Dan Ezekiel, Laura Rubin, Peter Allen, Catherine Riseng, Shannon Brines, Archer H. Christian, and Stephanie Buttrey
Absent 1 - Christopher Taylor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Riseng, seconded by Commissioner Allen, that the agenda be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chairman declared the motion carried.

WELCOME & GOODBYES

Commissioner Ezekiel noted that the Commission is experiencing a transition in administrative staff. Anissa Bowden, who has served the Board for a number of years will be replaced by Dena Waddell. Commissioner Ezekiel thanked Ms. Bowden for her years of service and welcomed Ms. Waddell.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

(4 SPEAKERS MAXIMUM - 5 MINUTE SPEAKING TIME - SIGN UP MUST TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE MEETING BY NOTIFYING THE CHAIR OR CITY STAFF. THIS SECTION OF PUBLIC COMMENTARY IS LIMITED TO ITEMS RELATED TO THE AGENDA.)

None.

A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2013 were not available at the time of the meeting.

A-1 13-0711 Greenbelt Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of May 2, 2013

Not Available

B OLD BUSINESS

None

B-1 13-0871

GINNY TROCCHIO PRESENTED A SUMMARY THAT OUTLINED THE REGISTRY PROGRAM. MS. TROCCHIO BRIEFLY REVIEWED THE SUMMARY AND IDENTIFIED THE MAJOR POINTS IN THE DOCUMENT. THOSE MAJOR POINTS INCLUDED IDENTIFYING THE PRIORITY LANDOWNERS AND ACTUAL METHODOLOGY WITH REGARD TO PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION. MS. TROCCHIO ALSO PRESENTED A MAP OF THE GREENBELT PROTECTED PROPERTIES TO DATE. THERE WAS DISCUSSION REGARDING FILLING IN THE "GAPS" TO MAKE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN EXISTING GREENBELT PROTECTED PROPERTIES. THE FIRST STEP IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREENBELT REGISTRY PROGRAM IS TO DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE OUTREACH MATERIALS. MS. TROCCHIO PRESENTED THE COMMISSION WITH A DRAFT OF AN OUTREACH BROCHURE FOR PROSPECTIVE LANDOWNERS. THE BROCHURE WOULD PROVIDE PROSPECTIVE OWNERS WITH A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHAT THE PROGRAM WOULD INCLUDE, WHAT PROPERTIES ARE ELIGIBLE AND THE LANDOWNER COMMITMENT.

COMMISSIONER ALLEN ADDED THAT HE FELT AS IF THE REGISTRY PROGRAM WOULD BE A GREAT BENEFIT. HE SAID THAT THE INCREASED EXPOSURE OF THE PROGRAM WAS MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. COMMISSIONER ALLEN ASKED THAT MS. TROCCHIO ALSO INCLUDE HER PICTURE, CONTACT INFORMATION AND A LINK TO THE GREENBELT WEBSITE PRIOR TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BROCHURE. HE SUGGESTED INCLUDING THE MAP OF THE GREENBELT WHICH WOULD IDENTIFY THE LANDOWNER'S PROPERTY IN RELATIONSHIP TO THEIR NEIGHBORS THAT HAVE ALREADY COMMITTED TO THE PROGRAM.

COMMISSIONER CHRISTIAN ASKED IF THERE WAS A WAY TO PUBLICLY HONOR THE REGISTRANTS IN THE BROCHURE. MS. TROCCHIO ANSWERED THAT SHE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING THE MATTER. COMMISSIONER CHRISTIAN SUGGESTED THAT THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE REGISTRANTS BE SHARED AT FUTURE EVENTS IF POSSIBLE.

MS. TROCCHIO ALSO DID SOME CALCULATIONS TO DETERMINE WHAT THE COMMISSION COULD POSSIBLY ACCOMPLISH WITH THE REMAINDER OF THE CURRENT MILLAGE FUNDS. SHE FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY THAT PROPERTY VALUES WOULD LIKELY INCREASE OVER TIME. WITH THE FUNDS THAT ARE AVAILABLE SHE ESTIMATES THAT THE COMMISSION MAY BE ABLE PRESERVE ANOTHER 6,000 TO 7,500 ACRES.

C NEW BUSINESS

None.

C-1 Staff Updates

MS. TROCCHIO REMINDED THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UPCOMING HOMEGROWN FESTIVAL ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2013. SHE NOTED THAT SHE HAS SUBMITTED A REQUEST TO SET UP A DISPLAY AT THE EVENT. TO DATE SHE HAS NOT HEARD FROM FRPP REGARDING THE 2013 GRANTS. SHE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY HOPE TO DISTRIBUTE THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS ISSUED VERY SOON. FUTURE UPDATES REGARDING THE FRPP GRANTS WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE COMMISSION UPON RECEIPT.

MS. TROCCHIO ADDRESSED THE COMMISSIONERS STATING THAT THE JULY MEETING WILL NOT BE HELD ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH DUE TO THE HOLIDAY. THE JULY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON JULY 11, 2013 AT 4:30 P.M. LASTLY, SHE ANNOUNCED THAT JENNIFER FIKE, A NEW COMMISSIONER REPLACING LAURA RUBIN, WILL BE ATTENDING HER FIRST MEETING IN JULY. THERE ARE TWO COMMISSION SEATS AVAILABLE AND SHE ENCOURAGED INTERESTED PARTIES TO APPLY.

COMMISSIONER EZEKIEL STATED THAT THE COMMISSION WAS CONTACTED BY THE SCIO TOWNSHIP PRESERVATION BOARD (STPB) REGARDING SCIO'S GORDON HALL EASEMENT IN DEXTER. THERE IS SOME ISSUE REGARDING PARKING ON THE PROPERTY AND THEY WOULD LIKE

someone from the Greenbelt Advisory Commission to address their board about the importance of maintaining and defending easements. Commissioner Ezekiel suggested that the Commission should follow up with this group in the future.

D NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

None.

E REPORT FROM COMMITTEES

None presented.

F COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Ezekiel officially welcomed Stephanie Buttrey to the Commission. Commissioner Buttrey stated that she was excited to learn more about the Greenbelt Program.

Commissioner Ezekiel acknowledged the departing of Commissioners Rubin, Bloomer and himself. Gifts were presented to the outgoing members. Farewell speeches were given by all departing Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY (5 MINIMUTE MAXIMUM SPEAKING TIME - NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SPEAKING IN THIS SECTION.)

None.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUS LAND ACQUISITION

A motion was made by Commissioner Christian, seconded by Commissioner Rubin, that the Commssion enter into Closed session to discuss land acquisition. On roll call, the vote was as follows, with the Chair declaring the motion carried:

Yeas: 8 - Commissioner Bloomer, Commissioner Ezekiel, Rubin, Commissioner Allen, Commissioner Riseng, Brines, Commissioner Christian, and Commissioner Buttrey

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Taylor

Meeting Reconvened

5:05 p.m.

MOTION Application 2013-02 and 2011-13

A motion was made by Commissioner Buttrey, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, that the following motion be Approved.

Motion to recommend to City Council to move forward with the purchase of development rights on properties identified in applications number 2013-02

and 2011-13, if FRPP funds are received.

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.