

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

9:00 AM

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

877-853-5247

Webinar ID: 943 5402 4789

Electronic Meeting

Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wieland called the meeting to order at 9:03am.

ROLL CALL

- *Chairman Richard Wieland - Trinity Health, Ypsilanti, 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*

- *Member Brooks Curtis - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*

- *Member Kimberley Sundy - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*

Absent: Member David Penland

Staff in attendance: Nicholas Jacob, Urban and Community Forester; Jamie Pauline, Urban Forest Partnership and Outreach Coordinator

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

- Absent** 1 - David Penland

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Change:

- *Add "Alternatives to Turf or Mulch in Public Parks" after "Mulchers."*

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved with changes

26-0383 Meeting Minutes for the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee - February 10th, 2026

26-0446 Final Meeting Minutes for the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee - February 10th, 2026

Changes:

- Remove Pauline's comment about mulching in parks from "Staff Report" section.

Member Nybell motioned to approve the minutes with the proposed changes. Member Sundy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

- Chairman Wieland and Member Sundy will staff the LSNC Earth Day event.

- Due to scheduling conflicts, the EDFC will not attend the Huron River Day festival.

26-0395 EDFC Staff Report: March 10th, 2026

26-0447 Updated Staff Report for the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee - March 10th, 2026

Parks Update - Jamie Pauline

- Tree spading (Arbor Oaks): Davey Tree has advised that hand-digging trees of the targeted size class (2" or so) would be cheaper than spading.

*- Bicentennial Park: Pauline consulted with Margolis about pricing for 2.5" caliper trees. Because the size and price Parks requested differ from the specifications and bids, respectively, a change order will need to be authorized. Adam Fercho specified that he would like seven river birches (*Betula nigra*) and six red maples (*Acer rubrum*).*

Member Curtis motioned to increase the allocated funds for Bicentennial Park from \$11,000 to \$13,000 to allow for the planting

and watering of thirteen 2.5" caliper trees. Member Davenport seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Leslie Golf Course Orchard - Jamie Pauline

Note: Chairman Wieland briefly dropped off the meeting at 9:29am. Quorum was maintained.

Pauline consulted with Margolis on fruit tree pricing. Per Parks' input, the species distribution should be about 40 pear trees, 14 apples, and 3 cherries. The 1.75" caliper apples specified in the contract will be available. However, the pears are not available as 1.75" caliper trees as in the contract. The options are 1.5" and 2.5" caliper. Because these deviate from contract specifications, a change order must be authorized in order to proceed.

The committee discussed, and they agreed to the 1.5" pears.

Financial Overview - Richard Wieland (original position)

Chairman Wieland motioned to amend the agenda by moving this topic to the end of the meeting. Member Curtis seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Hikone Cherry Project - Jamie Pauline

Pauline reached out to Torey Madura from CAN.

- Torey is fine with either meeting option (sub-quorum or special meeting).

- Planting on the east side of Hikone Road is acceptable.

- She would like cherries from Hikone, Japan, if possible.

The committee prefers the sub-quorum meeting option. Chairman Wieland and Members Nybell and Curtis volunteered to attend the site visit with Torey.

Arbor Day Plantings - Richard Wieland

- The applicant would like the planting to take place on April 15th with the help of student volunteers from Pioneer High School.

- Some members expressed concern about tree damage due to proximity to Main-Stadium intersection. The idea of moving the plantings

a little further south was suggested.

- Due to the late delivery of the proposal application, the committee could not vote on the proposal today. The committee decided to hold a special meeting on March 12th at 7:00pm to continue its consideration.

Note: Chairman Wieland returned to the meeting at 10:01am. Member Sundry left the meeting at 10:02am. Quorum was maintained.

26-0403 Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Project Proposal Application Form: Pioneer High School

Elm Treatments - Nicholas Jacob

The committee would like to treat three additional elms before the end of the fiscal year. Funds have been budgeted for this but not yet approved. The committee wants Pauline to consult Davey for a quote on new trees and to inquire about treatment success on the previously treated trees.

Citizen Pruner Tools - Nicholas Jacob

Jacob's recommended tool set would cost \$180.95 plus tax each. He suggested buying eight of them (\$1,447.60 plus tax).

Mulchers - Nicholas Jacob

Parks already is using grant money to pay for a mulcher for invasive plant removal and does not want another at this time.

Alternatives to Turf or Mulch in Public Parks

The committee is concerned about tree longevity in parks. Member Nybell wants to research alternatives to turf and mulch in public parks to expand possibilities for planting, especially in disadvantaged areas. The committee would like to invite someone from Parks to the April meeting to discuss.

Financial Overview - Richard Wieland

26-0393 Budget Performance Report for the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee - March 4th, 2026

[26-0384](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Longer Term Plan and Priorities - March 10th, 2026, Version A

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

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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 public comment was made or submitted.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- *Parks personnel invite*
- *Wheeler Park*
- *Bicentennial updates*
- *Arbor Day/Pioneer project*
- *Citizen Pruner equipment*
- *Elm tree treatment*
- *Leslie Golf Course orchard updates*
- *Hikone project*

ADJOURNMENT

Member Nybell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Curtis seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:48am.