

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Final

Tuesday, February 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 9:01am.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Richard Wieland - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Member Samuel Rosewig - Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor Charter Township, Washtenaw County

Member Lynn Nybell - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Member David Penland - Brunswick County, North Carolina

Member Robertson Davenport - Michigan Medicine, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Member Kimberley Sundy - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Member Brooks Curtis - home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

City staff present: Paul Matthews, Public Works Manager; Nicholas Jacob, Urban and Community Forester; Jamie Pauline, Urban Forest Partnership and Outreach Coordinator

Present 7 - Lynn Nybell, Richard Wieland, Kimberley Sundy, Brooks Curtis, Samuel Rosewig, David Penland, and Robert Davenport

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Change:

- Add Lynn Nybell to the conflict-of-interest discussion alongside Richard Wieland.

Member Nybell motioned to approve the agenda with the proposed change. Member Sundy seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[26-0167](#) EDFC Draft Meeting Minutes: January 13th, 2026

Amend:

- In "Meeting Guidelines" section, clarify that committee members may assist non-city applicants only.

26-0272 Meeting Minutes for the Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee - January 13th, 2026 - Final

Member Curtis motioned to approve the minutes as amended.

Member Davenport seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

BUSINESS

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

- Pauline will add Citizen Pruner tools and Arbor Day plantings to the March agenda.

- Member Curtis will forward the contact information for Jeannine Palms of Buhr Park Children's Wet Meadow to Pauline for followup on the guards placed on the trees in the Buhr Park cherry/serviceberry grove.

- Parks would like the EDFC to complete planting at Bicentennial Park before the May 12th opening.

- The contractor for the new Mushroom Park playscape is currently working on designs.

- Wheeler Park's vacant sites (as listed in GIS) are likely to be viable.

- The grove idea needs to involve Victor Morales-Rios. Hillary Hanzel and Adam Fercho should be cc'd on any communications regarding this.

26-0222 EDFC Staff Report: February 10th, 2026

Reappointments - Jamie Pauline

Members Davenport, Sundy, Wieland, and Penland are up for reappointment this year. Member Penland announced that he would not reapply as he will be starting law school. The committee wishes him success!

Pauline will ask Sarah Alanis for a list of applicants.

Hikone Road Cherries Project Proposal - Jamie Pauline

- Existing trees are old for cherries. The trees on the west side of the road are in worse shape than those on the east side.

- Pauline spoke with Jennifer Hall from Housing Commission. Hall requested that the EDFC not plant on the west side of the road or in the park due to potential future construction. However, she said that the east side of Hikone Road could be planted.

- Jacob visited the Hikone Road and reported that the trees will not be suitable for reuse as benches or anything similar as the proposal suggested. There is extensive rot in many of the trunks, and the logs would not be large enough to produce boards of sufficient size.

- New trees could be planted between existing ones, and the old trees could be removed as they deteriorate.

- Committee would like to organize a site visit with Torey Madura.

[26-0199](#) EDFC Project Proposal Application Form: Hikone Road Cherry Trees (February 2026)

[26-0216](#) EDFC February 10th, 2026 Meeting: Hikone Rd Pictures

Leslie Golf Course Orchard - Richard Wieland

Pauline followed up with Parks staff regarding the EDFC's suggestions for public accessibility. Restricting tee times was deemed not feasible. The public has some access outside of tee times, and golfers also consume the fruit from the orchard.

The committee decided to proceed with the project. Watering might not be performed by Margolis as is standard with street tree projects. Pauline will ask golf course staff/Parks about watering.

Member Nybell motioned to approve the allocation of up to \$25,000 for the planting of trees in the Leslie Golf Course orchard. Member Rosewig seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

[26-0219](#) EDFC February 10th, 2026 Meeting: Leslie Golf Course Orchard Photos

Mulchers - Brooks Curtis

Member Rosewig left the meeting at 10:21am. Quorum was maintained.

- Member Curtis suggested funding a mulcher/cutting head for NAP's use in removing invasive woody plants from heavily invaded areas.

- Jacob advised that a mulcher will not discriminate between native and nonnative plants.

- Matthews reported that Public Works is in possession of cutting heads similar to the ones Member Curtis suggested.

- Pauline will reach out to NAP. Jacob will take the lead on gathering information about Public Works' cutting heads.

Member Sundy left the meeting at 10:29am. Quorum was maintained.

Conflict of Interest Review - Richard Wieland and Lynn Nybell

- Member Nybell and Chairman Wieland both donate to Community Action Network, but they are not required to recuse themselves from votes or discussions involving collaboration with CAN so long as they, their friends, and/or their relatives will not financially benefit from their participation.

- Member Nybell also is involved with the Sister Lakes Association and donates to it. She has been advised that so long as she is not benefiting personally, she does not need to recuse herself in matters that might involve this group.

- Committee emphasized that disclosure of potential conflicts is important.

Financial Overview - Richard Wieland

Chairman Wieland voluntarily ceded his time in order to address other agenda items.

[26-0220](#) EDFC Budget Report: February 2026

26-0246 Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Longer Term Plan and Priorities - Version A - February 10th, 2026

Tree Spading - Nicholas Jacob

Efforts to find a local company to move small trees have not been fruitful yet.

Member Nybell left the meeting at 10:41am. Quorum was maintained.

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 persons submitted or attended to make public comment.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- *Arbor Day plantings*
- *Citizen Pruner tools*
- *Hikone proposal followup*
- *Parks updates*
- *Financial overview*
- *Mulchers*
- *Elm treatments*
- *Nursery (as staff report item)*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Member Curtis motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Davenport seconded. The motion was approved unanimously (4-0).