



**City of Ann Arbor**  
**Formal Minutes**  
**Park Advisory Commission**

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/  
Calendar.aspx](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

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Tuesday, May 15, 2018

4:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second  
Floor, City Council chambers

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**A CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Santacroce called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.**

**B ROLL CALL**

*Staff Present: C. Smith, H. Hanzel, D. Borneman, and J. Landefeld*

**Present:** 8 - Alan Jackson, Robert Galardi, David Santacroce, Paige Morrison, Praveena Ramaswami, Lauren London, Mike Appel, and Graydon Krapohl

**Absent:** 3 - Stephen Borgsdorf, Julie Grand, and Ruth L. Kraut

**C APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Approved as presented.**

**D APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**D-1**     [18-0700](#)   Minutes of the March 20, 2018 PAC Meeting

**Attachments:**   3-20-2018 PAC Minutes .pdf

**Unanimously approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council.**

**E PUBLIC COMMENTARY - (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

**F SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**G NEW BUSINESS**

**G-1**     [18-0829](#)   Resolution to Recommend the Parks Operating Budget Cover FY2018

Operating Expenses at the Ann Arbor Skatepark

**Attachments:** Ann Arbor Skatepark Resolution.pdf

*C. Smith explained that the agreement between the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark (Friends) and the City of Ann Arbor (City) for the Management and Operation of the Ann Arbor Skatepark includes a section that deals with the annual operational maintenance expenses. It is the responsibility of the Friends to pay all costs for the operation and maintenance of the skatepark for the duration of the agreement; however the City may decide to contribute following a funding review process. C. Smith explained that there have been some instances of hate graffiti at the skatepark, as well as other expenses and that approving the resolution would allow the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark endowment to grow and be worth more in the future, allowing for means to be available should a large capital expense occur.*

**A motion was made by Galardi, and seconded by Jackson that the resolution be approved by the Commission.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND THE PARKS OPERATING BUDGET COVER FY2018 OPERATING EXPENSES AT THE ANN ARBOR SKATEPARK**

*Whereas, The agreement between the Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark (Friends) and the City of Ann Arbor (City) states the funding of the operation and maintenance of the Ann Arbor Skatepark is the responsibility of the Friends;*

*Whereas, The agreement provides a provision whereby the City can contribute to the cost of annual maintenance and operation as part of a funding review process;*

*Whereas, In FY2018, as of May 9th, 2018 approximately \$10,584.00 in operational costs have been expended at the Skatepark and the City parks overall operating budget is able to absorb these expenses without neglecting other budgeted park needs;*

**RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend that the parks operating budget cover FY2018 operating expenses at the Ann Arbor Skatepark.**

*Commission Discussion:*

*The Commission discussed bathroom access at the park.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.**

**Yeas:** 7 - Jackson, Galardi, Santacroce, Morrison, Ramaswami, London, and Appel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Borgsdorf, Liaison Grand, and RAC Rep. Kraut

**G-2**      [18-0831](#)      Park Advisory Commission on the FY2019 Proposed Budget for Parks and Recreation Services and Operations

**Attachments:**      2019 Budget Worksheet Report- General Fund.pdf, 2019 Budget Worksheet Report -Park Maint and Capital Imp Millage.pdf, Park Advisory Commission Resolution on the FY 2019 Proposed Budget for Parks and Recreation Services and Park Operations.pdf

*C. Smith explained that the proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget does not propose any new fees or fee increases, that it is the second year in a two year budget cycle, and that the proposed budget remains the same in regards to revenue and expenditures. C. Smith explained that as part of the FY2019 budget, Park Operations and Park Forestry funding moves into Community Services from Public Services. Additionally, he explained that that staffing levels and budget will be the same and that he is in favor of the reorganization.*

**A motion was made by Morrison, and seconded by Appel, that the resolution be approved by the Commission.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION RESOLUTION ON THE FY 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET**

*Whereas, a vibrant, extensive, and healthy parks system is part of every great town and city;*

*Whereas, Ann Arbor residents value their parks, natural areas and recreational facilities and support these amenities through their taxes and patronage;*

*Whereas, the Parks Advisory Commission (PAC) commends staff for their continued efforts to engage PAC members in the budget process, and in producing a budget draft that follows PAC's recommended budget priorities to sustain facilities and activities for all residents, but especially children, low income residents, and seniors, particularly where these services are not otherwise available;*

*RESOLVED, That PAC recommends that City Council approve the Administrator's recommended budget for Parks and Recreation Services and Park Operations, highlighting the move of Park Operations and Park Forestry from Public Services to Community Services.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.**

**Yeas:** 7 - Jackson, Galardi, Santacroce, Morrison, Ramaswami, London, and Appel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Borgsdorf, Liaison Grand, and RAC Rep. Kraut

**G-3**      [18-0827](#)      Resolution to Recommend a Petition to the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner to Proceed with Design and Construction of Stream Bank Stabilization in Glazier Hill Park

**Attachments:**      Glazier Hill Stream Bank Stabilization Resolution .pdf, Glazier Tree List .pdf, Trees in the Corridor of Miller Tributary.pdf, Glazier Hill Park Aerial Photo .pdf, Glazier Hill Park Zoomed Aerial Photo .pdf

*Harry Sheehan, Washtenaw County Water Resources, presented a slide show explaining the severely eroded Miller Creek which is causing sedimentation in Ruthven Park. He explained that the erosion is the result of excessive flows from neighborhoods. He explained that the goal of stream bank stabilization is to prevent future erosion in the park by creating a stream profile capable of handling flows from the upstream stormwater network, which will have a broad environmental impact, preventing water quality issues.*

**A motion was made by Galardi, and seconded by Ramaswami that the resolution be approved as presented.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

*RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND A PETITION TO THE WASHTENAW COUNTY WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER TO PROCEED WITH DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF STREAM BANK STABILIZATION IN GLAZIER HILL PARK*

*Whereas, in 2013, the City of Ann Arbor's commissioned and received the "Management of Millers Creek Sediment Accumulation Study";*

*Whereas, the Study found erosion along the banks of a tributary to Miller Creek, located in Glazier Hill Park, to be the leading source of downstream sedimentation to Ruthven Park;*

*Whereas, sediment reaching the Huron River from Miller Creek delivers excess phosphorus that contributes to harmful algae blooms in Ford Lake and Lake Erie;*

*Whereas, a Capital Improvement Plan Project UT-ST-16-03 identifies the project for implementation with Stormwater Utility funds, and the City now has the opportunity to proceed;*

*Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor seeks to petition the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commission) to perform the work and establish long-term maintenance obligation;*

*RESOLVED, that the Parks Advisory Commission recommend that City Council approve a petition to the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commission for stream bank stabilization in Glazier Hill Park;*

*Commission Discussion:*

*The Commission discussed impacted trees, impacted private lands, construction timelines, and approval process logistics.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.**

**Yeas:** 7 - Jackson, Galardi, Santacroce, Morrison, Ramaswami, London, and Appel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Borgsdorf, Liaison Grand, and RAC Rep. Kraut

County Parks & Recreation Commission to Update the Bandemer-Barton Pedestrian Tunnel Feasibility Study and to Obtain Comprehensive Engineering Services to Extend the Barton Nature Trail

**Attachments:** Letter of Intent - Update the Bandemer-Barton Pedestrian Tunnel 2005 Feasibility Study .pdf, Barton-Bandemer Exhibit A.pdf

*C. Smith explained the resolution outlining a partnership between the City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services, the Washtenaw County Park and Recreation Commission, and the Huron Waterloo Pathways initiative to collaborate on an update to the 2005 feasibility study for the Bandemer-Barton Pedestrian Tunnel.*

**Moved by London, seconded by Jackson, that the resolution be approved as presented.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND SIGNING A LETTER OF INTENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ANN ARBOR PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES, THE WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, AND THE HURON WATERLOO PATHWAYS INITIATIVE TO PARTNER ON FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE BARTON-BANDEMER TUNNEL**

*Whereas, in 2005, the City of Ann Arbor commissioned and received a feasibility study for the Bandemer-Barton Pedestrian Tunnel;*

*Whereas, this non-motorized connection has been desired for more than two decades, but due to insufficient funding and the difficulty of obtaining approvals from the railroad, progress on the tunnel has been delayed; Whereas, since the 2005 study, the railroad has changed from private ownership to being publicly owned by MDOT;*

*Whereas, funding has become available through Washtenaw County and HWPI, and the Iron Belle Trail has become a priority for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources grants;*

*Whereas, changes in railroad ownership, national standards for trails, and construction costs have led the desire to update the tunnel feasibility study;*

*Whereas, this tunnel is a critical gap on the Border-to-Border Trail (B2B), as well as the statewide Iron Belle trail, and is one of the final hurdles to*

*overcome connecting the City with the parks and along the Huron River; Whereas, this tunnel will improve non-motorized safety around the North Main Street & M-14 corridor by providing a safe pedestrian and bicycle gateway to the City;*

*Whereas, this study will determine the preferred type of tunnel structure and provide an order of magnitude cost estimate to allow the collaborators to evaluate the feasibility of construction;*

*Whereas, depending on the outcome of the feasibility study, this partnership will extend to the design and construction of the tunnel as well as an extension of the B2B trail through Barton Nature Area;*

*Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services, the Washtenaw County Park and Recreation Commission (County), and the Huron Waterloo Pathways initiative (HWPI) wish to collaborate on an update to the tunnel feasibility study per the attached Letter of Intent;*

*Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor portion of funding the feasibility study shall not exceed \$12,500;*

*RESOLVED, that the Parks Advisory Commission recommend signing a letter of intent between the City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services, the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Huron Waterloo Pathways initiative to partner on a feasibility study for the Baton – Bandemer connection, along with potential improvements to the B2B trail in Barton Nature Area.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.**

**Yeas:** 7 - Jackson, Galardi, Santacroce, Morrison, Ramaswami, London, and Appel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Borgsdorf, Liaison Grand, and RAC Rep. Kraut

**G-5**      [18-0828](#)      Resolution to Recommend Accepting a Fair Food Network Grant for the Ann Arbor Farmers Market for \$40,000.00

**Attachments:**      Resolution for Fair Food Network Grant.pdf

*C. Smith explained the resolution to recommend approving an agreement with Fair Food Network, which would provide grant funding to expand food assistance to customers at the Farmer's Market.*

**Moved by Morrison, seconded by Ramaswami, that the resolution be approved as presented.**

*Resolution reads as follows:*

*RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND ACCEPTING A FAIR FOOD NETWORK GRANT FOR THE ANN ARBOR FARMER'S MARKET FOR \$40,000.00 AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS*

*Whereas, Double Up Food Bucks is a national project providing incentives to encourage healthier food choices for food stamp (SNAP) recipients, directly benefitting low-income families and local farmers in Michigan and working to impact future food and nutrition policy, and*

*Whereas, the City of Ann Arbor has received grant funding from the Fair Food Network since 2010 to administer the Double Up Food Bucks program at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market,*

*RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend approving a grant agreement with the Fair Food Network to administer the Double Up Food Bucks program at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market; and*

*RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend City Council accept and appropriate funding in the amount of \$40,000.00 from the Fair Food Network establishing a grant revenue and expenditure budget in the Major Grants fund for the DUFEB program without regard to fiscal year.*

*Commission Discussion:*

*D. Santacroce explained that he will abstain from voting due to his wife's employment at the Fair Food Network.*

**On a voice vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the resolution approved.**

**Vote: 6-0**

**Yeas:** 6 - Jackson, Galardi, Morrison, Ramaswami, London, and Appel

**Nays:** 0

**Absent:** 2 - Borgsdorf, Liaison Grand, and RAC Rep. Kraut



**Recused:** 1 - Santacroce

**G-6**      [18-0830](#)      Information on 2018 Parks Millage Renewal

*C. Smith presented information on past Parks Millages, changes to recent millages, the Ann Arbor Parks system, as well as Parks funding. He explained that the Parks Millage contributes to 41% of the Parks budget. C. Smith reviewed Parks budget expenses, and the impact of the Parks Millage on Parks projects.*

*A video C. Smith's full presentation is available for viewing on <https://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>*

*The Commission discussed the administrative policies within the millage and park services to the City.*

**Received and Filed**

**H      COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**I      REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

*C. Smith reported that the pools are scheduled to open on Saturday, May 26, 2018. He explained that the repairs at Veteran's Memorial Park are going well. He added that the Huron River is at the highest point it has ever been at this time of year. He added that Huron River day is on Sunday, May 20, 2018.*

*A. Jackson added that the pickle ball courts are open.*

**J      REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

*No Report.*

**K      REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASKFORCES**

*No Report.*

**L      PUBLIC COMMENTARY - (3 Minutes per Speaker)**

*None.*

**M      CLOSED SESSION**

*None.*

**N      TRANSMITTALS**

**N-1      [18-0832](#)      Park Planning Capital Project Update**

**Attachments:      Park Planning Project Update.pdf**

**Received and Filed**

**N-2      [18-0833](#)      PAC Council Update**

**Attachments:      PAC Council Update 5-2018.pdf**

**Received and Filed**

**N-3      [18-0834](#)      Parks Project Status Table**

**Attachments:      Parks Project Status Table FY2017-18.pdf**

**Received and Filed**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Unanimously adjourned at 4:36 p.m.**