

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

9:00 AM

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

877-853-5247

Webinar ID: 996 4289 5904

Electronic Meeting

Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wieland called the meeting to order at 9:00am.

ROLL CALL

- Chairman Richard Wieland: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- Member Lynn Nybell: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- Member Kimberly Sundy: work, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- Member Brooks Curtis: home, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*
- Member Robertson Davenport: work, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County*

Staff present: Nicholas Jacob, Forestry Department; Jamie Pauline, Forestry Department; Laurie Tabachnik, Parks and Recreation Department

Present 5 - Lynn Nybell, Richard Wieland, Kimberley Sundy, Brooks Curtis, and Robert Davenport

Absent 3 - Tiffany Giacobazzi, Samuel Rosewig, and David Penland

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Nybell moved to approve the March 2025 agenda. Member Curtis seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Page 3: Change "Garden Homes Cir" to "Garden Cir."*
- Page 2: Delete duplicate notes ('Change:*
- Page 4: "Parks may approach" to "Pocket forest organizers may approach."*
- Page 4: "in West Park" to "across Ann Arbor" (elm tree treatments).')*

Member Curtis moved to approve the February 2025 meeting minutes with changes. Member Davenport seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[25-0569](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Draft Meeting Minutes: February 11th, 2025

[25-0593](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Committee Meeting Minutes - Final: February 11th, 2025

BUSINESS

Staff Report - Jamie Pauline

[25-0567](#) March 2025 EDFC Staff Report

Outreach Events - Jamie Pauline

- Member Davenport will be volunteering at the Office of Sustainability and Innovations' 2025 FreeTree Giveaway in April.*
- Chairman Wieland and Member Davenport will run a table at the Leslie Science and Nature Center's Earth Day event on April 27th. Pauline will submit the form to reserve a table.*
- Chairman Wieland suggested Arbor Day plantings in Gallup Park in conjunction with the Elizabeth Dean Fund sign unveiling.*
- Members mentioned the possibility of kickoffs for the Housing Commission and bus stop projects.*

Budget Report - Jamie Pauline

[25-0592](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Budget Report: Fiscal Year Through March 10th, 2025

Projects and Budget Breakdown - Jamie Pauline

- Pauline will follow up on the following items:*
- Whether Arbor Day trees are a contract expense or a maintenance expense*
 - Contract expiration date*
 - Whether the tree planting contract is as needed or if it is constrained to specific years*

[25-0565](#) March 2025 Projects and Budget Breakdown

3-Year Plan Review - Richard Wieland

- Pauline will investigate whether the Arbor Day tree plantings are classified as contract expenses or maintenance/miscellaneous expenses, whether the tree contract is as required or constrained to specific years, and when the contract with Margolis expires.*

Chairman Wieland believes that there should be money available should Adopt-A-Park ask for funding.

Treatment of the Wurster Park oak was discussed. Jacob says that the tree is approaching the end of its lifespan and that the treatment is likely a futile use of funds, and suggests replacing that oak with a new oak tree. Pauline will consult with Parks about possible succession planting.

[25-0597](#) Elizabeth Dean Fund Longer Term Plan and Priorities - April 8th, 2025

Equity Planting Updates

Winewood Thaler Area - Jamie Pauline

Pauline confirmed with Margolis that they will be able to fit this project, along with the Housing Commission-adjacent project, into their spring planting schedule.

Housing Commission Plantings - Jamie Pauline

Updated information indicates that 29 of 37 identified sites can be planted, two of which will be delayed due to landscaping plans at the adjacent Housing Commission property. Eliminated sites were either unplantable or had already been planted.

[25-0564](#) March 2025 Update: Housing Commission Vacancies

Bus Stop Plantings - Jamie Pauline

Member Nybell moved to authorize an amount not exceeding \$20,000 for the planting and watering of 34 trees at bus stops throughout the City of Ann Arbor. Member Curtis seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

[25-0572](#) Bus Stop Vacancies v.2

Gallup Park Sign - Laurie Tabachnik

-Tabachnik suggested holding the ribbon-cutting ceremony in the spring. The committee is considering making the sign unveiling into an Arbor Day event.

-The sign will be installed in the spring once the weather is appropriate for installation.

Member Nybell motioned to authorize up to \$1,000 to plant two trees near the Gallup Park Elizabeth Dean Grove. Member Sundy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Temporary Signage - Laurie Tabachnik

Tabachnik conveyed feedback on the temporary signage for EDFC plantings.

-Add comment "in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor"

-Add Parks and Recreation logo

-Add line: "For more information, please scan the QR code below."

-Accessibility: Font should be sans serif and at least 18 points. Sentence case should be used.

-Consult with department handling right-of-way management.

Members Nybell and Sundy left at 10:29am. Quorum was lost.

Elm Tree Treatments - Jamie Pauline

Jacob stated that he believes elms greater than 35 inches DBH and American and red elms are most susceptible to Dutch elm disease.

Committee plans to select 9 trees to treat, staggering treatments so that 3 trees are treated annually. Pauline and Jacob will meet to discuss the selection process. If necessary, a proposal will be sent to bid.

25-0568 Public Elms Breakdown

Adopt-A-Park Outreach - Brooks Curtis

Dana Novak will send out an inquiry to Adopt-A-Park volunteers to see what trees they want. Information should be available at the next EDFC meeting.

Member Curtis stated that parks in economically disadvantaged communities are less likely to have Adopt-A-Park volunteers. Pauline will

follow up by identifying parks in economically disadvantaged areas.

FY2026 Project Discussion

The discussion was postponed for full committee attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 minutes per speaker)

No public comment was made.

NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

- Economically disadvantaged parks*
- Margolis status update*
- Additional Parks plantings/consultation*
- Elm treatments*
- Adopt-A-Park update*
- Projects for review*

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wieland motioned to adjourn. Member Davenport seconded the motion. However, there was no quorum, so no motion was passed. Meeting ended at 11:06am.