



# City of Ann Arbor

## Formal Minutes

### Park Advisory Commission

301 E. Huron St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104  
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

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Monday, August 3, 2020

4:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

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**Electronic Meeting - Rescheduled from July 21, 2020 This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16, ATT Channel 99, and online at [a2gov.org/watchCTN](http://a2gov.org/watchCTN) To speak at public comment call: 888 788 0099 Enter Meeting ID: 977 7503 2733**

**1 CALL TO ORDER**

**2 ROLL CALL**

**City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Manager Colin Smith called the roll.**

**Present:** 10 - Paige Morrison, Stephen Borgsdorf, Julie Grand, Praveena Ramaswami, Lauren London, Mike Appel, Ruth L. Kraut, Rachel Skylis, Jeff Hayner, and Anne Marsan

**3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Approved unanimously as presented**

**4 FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Nancy Leff, 1512 Montclair Place, explained that there is neighborhood desire to rename Rose White Park after the late Graydon Krapohl, and requested that the process to do so be initiated.*

**5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5-A [20-1155](#) Minutes from the June 16, 2020 PAC Meeting**

**Attachments:** 6-16-2020 PAC Minutes.pdf

**Moved by Borgsdorf, seconded by Kraut, approved unanimously as presented and forwarded to the City Council.**

**6 PRESENTATIONS**

**6-A**      [20-1157](#)    Huron Hills Golf Course Project -Benz Creek

**Attachments:**    Huron Hills Golf Course .pdf

*Harry Sheehan, Chief Deputy Water Resources Commissioner, presented the Huron Hills Golf Course Project highlighting the following items:*

- Project Team*
- Project Background*
- Goals and Objectives*
- Project Layout*
- Construction Timeline*
- Project Funding*

*Chair Morrison inquired about impact to the golf course season.*

*Sheehan answered that after September 8, golf course play reduces, and that it will be possible for play to continue during construction, the layout will be slightly different due to some hole closures.*

**Received and Filed**

**6-B**      [20-1156](#)    Lyn-Anne Arbana Sanitary Sewer Project and Maryfield Wildwood Park

**Attachments:**    lyn\_anne\_sewer\_pac\_presentation\_20200803.pdf

*City of Ann Arbor Landscape Architect Hillary Hanzel presented the Lyn-Anne Arbana Sanitary Sewer Project highlighting the following items as they relate to the replacement of 4,300 feet of existing sanitary sewer.*

- Sewer overflows and maintenance issues*
- Past sewer projects*
- Maintenance of natural corridor*
- Funding*
- Park impacts*
- Amenity improvements*

*Commissioner Mike Appel discussed the opportunity for forestry efforts, discussing removing additional invasive species.*

*Commissioner Ruth Kraut agreed with Appel, expressing that she supports this project, and discussed drainage at the site. Kraut also*

*inquired about removal of additional invasive species.*

**Received and Filed**

**6-C      [20-1164](#)      Gallup Vehicle Bridge Replacement**

*Hanzel presented the Gallup Vehicle Bridge Replacement project highlighting the following items:*

*Replacement proposed in 2023  
Community Engagement  
Detailed design beginning in 2021/early 2022*

*Councilmember Jeff Hayner inquired about expanding the bridge to be two lanes.*

*Commissioner Praveena Ramaswami inquired about parking at or near the proposed project site.*

*Hanzel and Smith explained that bridge expansion and parking are both concepts that will be explored.*

*Kraut inquired about separating the biking and walking paths.*

*Councilmember Julie Grand inquired about path replacement in the area.*

*Hanzel answered that many improvements are being considered.*

**Received and Filed**

**7      REPORTS**

**7-A      REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

**[20-1165](#)      Update on Park & Recreation operations under COVID-19**

*Smith provided updates for the Farmer's Market, the Golf Courses, Fuller Pool, Liveries, and Ice Rinks.*

*Commissioner Stephen Borgsdorf commended Smith and staff for their efforts and work during this time.*

*Ramaswami commended Smith and staff for the fast response to a Covid-19 case within the Parks staff.*

*Commissioner Lauren London inquired about the experience of Parks staff as it relates to enforcing rules relating to Covid-19.*

*Smith answered that there have been many positive comments from customers this year, but there have also been more difficult customers than is typical as tensions are heightened given rules related to COVID-19.*

*Kraut inquired about parking issues at the liveries.*

*Smith answered that there is a parking attendant.*

**Received and Filed**

**7-B REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

*No report.*

**7-C REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASKFORCES**

**8 NEW BUSINESS**

**8-A [20-1166](#) Resolution to Recommend Approving the Fuller Park Parking Lot Land Lease with the University of Michigan**

**Attachments:** Fuller Park Lot Land Lease FINALAmend 7-31-2020 (002).pdf, PAC - FULLER UM PARKING 2020.pdf, Fuller Park Lot Land Lease FINAL\_Amend 7-8-20CS (002).pdf

*City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services Deputy Manager Josh Landefeld explained the Resolution to Recommend Approving the Fuller Park Parking Lot Land Lease with the University of Michigan. Landefeld explained that there is an increased lease price to be paid by the University of Michigan, as well as other proposed lease agreement changes.*

*Ramaswami inquired about parking spaces allocated for public use at all times in the south lot.*

*Landefeld answered, 10 spaces.*

**Moved by London, seconded by Borgsdorf, to approve the Resolution to Recommend Approving the Fuller Park Parking Lot Land Lease with the University of Michigan**

On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion passed.

Approved Resolution reads as follows:

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE FULLER PARK PARKING LOT LAND LEASE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

**Whereas, On September 29, 1993, an agreement was entered into between the City of Ann Arbor and University of Michigan for the establishment and operation of a parking lot on City-owned property at Fuller Park, located south of Fuller Road;**

**Whereas, The parking lots north of Fuller Road have been leased to the University since 2009;**

**Whereas, The lease generates significant revenue for the Parks & Recreation General Fund;**

**Whereas, It is the desire of the City and the University to continue the lease arrangement; and**

**Whereas, The term of the agreement shall be one year, with an option to administratively renew the lease for two additional one-year terms;**

**RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend that City Council approve the attached Fuller Park Parking Lot Land Lease with the University of Michigan (“Lease”).**

**Yeas: 8 - Morrison, Borgsdorf, Ramaswami, London, Appel, RAC Rep. Kraut, Skylis, and Marsan**

**Nays: 0**

**8-B      [20-1168](#)      Resolution to Recommend Approving a Contract with Seaway Painting for Repairs to the Waterslide Structure at Veterans Memorial Park Pool**

**Attachments:** PAC - VETS SLIDE.pdf

*Adam Fercho, City of Ann Arbor Landscape Architect, explained the proposed Resolution to Recommend Approving a Contract with Seaway Painting for Repairs to the Waterslide Structure at Veterans Memorial Park Pool. Fercho explained that the structure was last coated 15 years ago, that some work has been completed by Parks Staff, and that the proposed work is scheduled to be completed in time for the 2021 pool season.*

*Chair Morrison inquired about when Fuller Pool will close this year.*

*Smith answered that the plan is to keep the pool open for two weeks after Labor Day.*

*Hayner inquired about the funding source for the proposed resolution.*

*Smith answered that funding was included in the capital budget for the current operating year.*

**Moved by Kraut, seconded by Ramaswami to approve the resolution to recommend approval of a contract with Seaway Painting to rehabilitate the pool slide stair structure at Veterans Memorial Park (\$52,350.00)**

**On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion passed.**

**Approved Resolution Reads as Follows:**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH SEAWAY TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE POOL SLIDE STAIR STRUCTURE AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK (\$52,350.00)**

**Whereas, a structural assessment has concluded that the stair support structure in Veterans Memorial Park Pool needs repair to ensure continued use of the pool slide;**

**Whereas, some of the identified repairs were completed by Parks Staff, while more technical work will need to be performed by a licensed contractor working from engineered drawings;**

**Whereas, these structural steel repairs need to be performed soon**

in order to prevent further deterioration and more costly repairs;  
**Whereas, the project supports the City sustainability goals of promoting active living and learning and providing for a safe community;**  
**Whereas, funding is available in the approved FY2021 Park Maintenance and Capital Improvement Millage budget;**  
**Whereas, a compelling urgency exists as the City’s consultant has recommended that repairs be completed prior to the next pool season;**  
**Whereas, another round of public bidding would add considerable time to the project schedule, limiting the City’s ability to repair the pool slide stair structure in a timely manner, and risk not having it available for the 2021 pool season;**  
**Whereas, Seaway painting provided a quote within ROWE Engineering’s cost estimate for the project;**  
**Whereas, Staff is recommending that Seaway Painting be used as a Best Source;**  
**RESOLVED, that the Park Advisory Commission recommend that City Council approve a \$52,350.00 contract with Seaway for rehabilitation of the pool slide stair structure at Veterans Memorial Park and approve a construction contingency of \$5,235 (10%) to cover potential contract change orders, for a total contract amount of \$57,585 for the life of the project without regard to fiscal year.**

**Yeas:** 8 - Morrison, Borgsdorf, Ramaswami, London, Appel, RAC Rep. Kraut, Skylis, and Marsan

**Nays:** 0 - Councilmember Hayner

**8-C**      **20-1170**      Upcoming Game Court Renovations

*Upcoming Game Court Renovations*

*Fercho provided information on upcoming game court renovations. Fercho highlighted the basketball courts at Southeast Area Park and Leslie Park are being considered for replacement. Fercho explained that the projects are scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day 2021. Fercho also provided information on Project Blackboard as it relates to painting the basketball courts.*

*Ramaswami inquired about potential distraction due to the painted courts for the users of the courts.*

*Fercho explained that large geometric patterns tend to work well for*

*projects like those proposed, and there is a recommended color scheme that will be considered as well.*

#### *Gallup Park Boat Launch Pathway Improvements*

*Fercho explained the scheduled improvements, highlighting the existing conditions, which include standing water, path deterioration, and cow-paths. Fercho explained that the proposed improvements include widening the path from eight feet to ten feet, replacing the site furnishings, and resolving the drainage issues. Fercho explained that the project is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day 2021*

#### **Received and Filed**

- 8-D**      [20-1169](#)      Resolution to Recommend Naming the Property Acquired from JAG EISENHOWER, L.L.C as “Willow Nature Area”

**Attachments:**      PAC - WILLOW NATURE AREA NAMING RESOLUTION.pdf, 385 E Eisenhower Pkwy Location Map.pdf, 385 E Eisenhower Pkwy Aerial Map.pdf

*Dave Borneman, Natural Area Preservation Manager, explained the resolution, and that the name Willow Nature Area is based on the type of trees present at the property.*

*Hayner inquired about how to access the park.*

*Borneman answered that at this time there are no trails, and that the park can be accessed from the parking lot.*

*Appel inquired about budget implications of naming the park.*

*Smith answered that there is very little impact to the budget.*

**Moved by Ramaswami, seconded by London, to approve the Resolution to Recommend Naming the Property Acquired from JAG EISENHOWER, L.L.C as “Willow Nature Area”**

**On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion passed.**

**Approved resolution reads as follows:**

**RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND NAMING THE PROPERTY**



**ACQUIRED FROM JAG EISENHOWER, L.L.C.AS  
"WILLOW NATURE AREA"**

**Whereas, The property was acquired by the City of Ann Arbor from JAG EISENHOWER, L.L.C. in 2007;**

**Whereas, The property contains floodplain forest habitat on either side of Malletts Creek, which runs through the property;**

**RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommends Mayor and City Council designate the property as parkland and approve the park be named "Willow Nature Area."**

**Yeas:** 8 - Morrison, Borgsdorf, Ramaswami, London, Appel, RAC Rep. Kraut, Skylis, and Marsan

**Nays:** 0

**9 COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

**9-A**      [20-1172](#)      Resolution to Appoint a Park Naming Committee for Renaming Winchell Park

**Attachments:**      PAC - WINCHELL AD-HOC.pdf

*Chair Morrison explained that Winchell Park is likely named after Alexander Winchell, a University of Michigan professor and known eugenicist. Morrison explained that the resolution will allow the PAC to create an Ad Hoc naming committee, where one PAC members is needed.*

*Councilmember Grand further explained the neighborhood efforts leading to the renaming.*

*PAC Representatives: Stephen Borgsdorf with Rachel Skylis as backup.*

**Moved by Borgsdorf, seconded Kraut, to approve the Resolution to Appoint a Park Naming Committee for Renaming Winchell Park.**

**On a roll call vote the vote was as follows with the Chair declaring the motion passed.**

**APPROVED RESOLUTION READS AS FOLLOWS:**

**Whereas, Winchell Park may be named after Alexander Winchell, a U-M professor of physics, civil engineering, geology and paleontology;**

**Whereas, A U-M committee reviewed Winchell's work and noted that "by both contemporary standards and even in the context of Winchell's day, his most notable work — the 1880 book titled, 'Preadamites, or a Demonstration of the Existence of Men before Adam' — was unambiguously racist and out of step with the University's own aspirations in those times.";**

**Whereas, The U of M has acted to strip Winchell's name from their properties; Whereas, Residents in the Winchell Park area have approached the City with concerns over the name of Winchell Park and wish to see it renamed; Whereas, After review by City staff there appears not to be any binding reason why the park must remain named Winchell Park; Whereas, The Park Advisory Commission strives to provide exceptional experiences for all Park visitors and residents, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, income level, ethnicity, or ability; Whereas, The Park Advisory Commission believes everyone should feel safe, welcome and respected in the City Parks and that renaming Winchell Park is consistent with this goal;**

**RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission establish a special ad-hoc committee to be involved in the process of renaming Winchell Park;**

**RESOLVED, That the special ad-hoc Park Naming Committee shall advise the City Parks & Recreation Services Unit and the City Park Advisory Commission on the following: a. Further research the origins of the name Winchell Park b. Identify four potential park names for the park presently known as Winchell Park, with an emphasis on names that celebrate racial diversity and social equity c. Develop a method to engage the broader public to vote on choosing one of the four proposed names for renaming Winchell Park d. Bring to PAC a renaming recommendation in the form of a renaming resolution with results of the broader public vote**

**RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission appoints the following individuals to the ad-hoc Park Naming Committee for a term of six-months, expiring February 3, 2021: • Member, Park Advisory Commission • Steph White, Resident, Winchell Park Neighborhood • Youth Member, The Neutral Zone • Community Member At-Large • Galen Hardy, Sustainability and Innovations Engagement Specialist, City Office of Sustainability and Innovations**

• **Colin Smith, Director, City Parks and Recreation Services**

**Yeas:** 8 - Morrison, Borgsdorf, Ramaswami, London, Appel, RAC  
Rep. Kraut, Skylis, and Marsan

**Nays:** 0

**10 SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT (Not Limited to Agenda Items)**

**11 COMMUNICATIONS**

**11-A**     [20-1175](#)   Park Planning Capital Project Update

**Attachments:**   PAC Calendar 7-17-2020.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**11-B**     [20-1176](#)   PAC Council Update

**Attachments:**   PAC COUNCIL UPDATE 8\_2020.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**11-C**     [20-1173](#)   Parks Project Status Table

**Attachments:**   Parks\_Project\_Status\_Table-FY2020.pdf

**Received and Filed**

**12 CLOSED SESSION**

**13 ADJOURNMENT**

**Unanimously adjourned**

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