

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 4, 2020

4:30 PM

This meeting will be broadcast live on CTN Cable Channel 16,
ATT Channel 99, and online at a2gov.org/watchCTN

Electronic Meeting

To speak at public comment call: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099
Greenbelt Advisory Commission (GAC)

Enter Meeting ID: 998 0664 1762

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Fike, Chair of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission called the electronic regular meeting of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission to order on June 4, 2020 at 4:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Jennifer Fike, Robert Gordon, Julie Grand, Sheila Schueller, and Rosanne Bloomer

Absent: 1 - Eric Ellis

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Rep. Grand, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, that the agenda be approved with the following changes:

- Delete the approval of minutes,**
- Postpone New GAC Member Introduction to the next meeting,**
- Postpone GAC Vacacances/Officers to the next meeting,**
- Add Conservation Easement Violations**

On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

A APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deleted from Agenda.

Approved as presented

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

4 SPEAKERS MAXIMUM - 5 MINUTES SPEAKING TIME. Sign up must take place prior to the meeting by notifying the chair or city staff. This section of public commentary is limited to items related to the agenda.

None.

Approved as presented

B OLD BUSINESS

None.

C NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Rural Internet Disclaimer

Mr. Long explained the usage of Zoom to conduct the meeting and what would happen in the event of internet outages and the steps the commissioners should take to rejoin a meeting in the event of a failure.

C-2 New GAC Member Introduction

Deleted from Agenda.

C-3 GAC Vacancies/Officers

Chairperson Fike, informed the Commission that the approval of a new Commissioner is set for Council action at the June 15, 2020 meeting. The Commission has also been conducting outreach in an effort to fill the remaining two vacancies on the Commission. She encourage people to apply.

Chairperson Fike also recognized the contributions to the Commission of former Commissioners Buttrey and Stauffer.

C-4 Recent Closings

Mr. Long noted that since December that the City has closed five projects. The projects have added 433 acres to the conservancy with a fair market value of \$3.3 million dollars. The Greenbelt was able secure these properties for a total outlay of \$971,000.00.

C-5 FY20 ACEP-ALE Submissions

Mr. Long has submitted \$2.2 million dollars worth of for federal funding to help acquire two additional properties totaling 338 acres. This request represent the largest project every considered by the Greenbelt. The Commission should learn the results of the funding request in the next 90 days.

C-6 GAC Letters of Support

Chair Fike, stated that the Commission has recently submitted two letters of support. Once letter of support for the Superior Townships application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust fund. The commission also provided a letter of support for the Washtenaw County Conservation District's November ballot initiative.

Mr. Long state the Washtenaw Area Restoration ballot initiative would appear on the November ballot. While the Washtenaw County Conservation District's mileage renew will be on the August ballot.

C-7 Public Presentations/Media Coverage

Mr. Long, informed the Commission that he recently presented to the residents of Glacier Hills Retirement Community. He has also been contacted by the City of Chelsea and Lima Township, on presenting to their leadership and residents on the process of establishing a Greenbelt.

C-8 July 9 GAC Meeting Reschedule

Chairperson Fike, informed the Commission that the July meeting has been rescheduled for July 9th as a result of the 4th of July holiday.

C-9 Conservation Easement Violation (added to the agenda)

The City currently participates in the Botsford Conservation Easement. In late April the City was notified of unauthorized tree cutting. [The while the] WHILE THE CITY contributed funding to the project, Scio Township is the primary holder of the easement. As a result of this effort the City Attorneys Office will be coordinating with Scio Township. City Council members are aware of the violation and steps are being taken to address it.

**As amended and approved by the Commission on September 3, 2020 [Brackets] indicate deleted language. ALL CAPS indicate new language.*

D NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

no additional items added.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS LAND ACQUISITION

closed session 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Schueller, that the Commission enter into Closed Session to discuss land acquisition. On a roll call vote, the vote was as follows with the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned into Closed Session at 5:00 p.m.

Yeas: 5 - Fike, Gordon, Grand, Schueller, and Bloomer

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 - Ellis

MEETING RECONVENED

A motion was made by Chair Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, that the meeting reconvene. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting reconvened at 5:39 p.m.

Application ID-2018-14

A motion was made by Chair Fike, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, to recommend City participation with Ann Arbor Township in the acquisition of a conservation easement on the property identified in Application ID-2018-14 and approval of the contribution of funds not to exceed \$60,000 from the Open Space and Parkland Preservation Millage. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Application ID-2019-10

A motion was made by Commissioner Schueller, seconded by Commissioner Bloomer, to recommend City participation with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission in the acquisition of a conservation easement on the property identified in Application ID-2019-10 and approval of the contribution of funds not to exceed \$73,593 from the Open Space and Parkland Preservation Millage. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Application ID-2020-06

A motion was made by Chair Fike, seconded by Council Rep. Grand, to recommend City participation with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission in the acquisition of a conservation easement on the property identified in Application ID-2020-06 and approval of the contribution of funds not to exceed \$115,830 from the Open Space and Parkland Preservation Millage. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

**5 MINUTES MAXIMUM SPEAKING TIME - NO LIMIT TO THE NUMBER OF
PEOPLE SPEAKING IN THIS SECTION.**

None.

E REPORT FROM COMMISSION COMMITTEES

E-1 Executive Committee Report

Chair Fike stated that she meet with Mr. Long last week to discuss the agenda for today's meeting. She also discussed some upcoming potential projects and the current vacancies on the Commission.

E-2 Communications Committee

None.

E-3 Scoring Committee

Commission Schueller discussed the of inviting Non-GAC member on to the Committee to discuss water quality scoring and insuring that the Commission's work aligns with the Huron River Watershed Council. The Master Projects Team is moving full steam ahead looking at ecosystem measures.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Schueller, that the meeting be adjourn. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

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