



# Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

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## Green Space Advisory Board

*Chairperson Gerald Carvey, Vice Chairperson Tim Gauthier*  
*Members: Thomas Dohr, Richard Graham, Jayson Graves, Lynn Loebis,*  
*Dahlvin Peterson, Samantha Phillips, Beth Tilove*  
*Council Member Adam Kochenderfer*  
*Youth Representatives: Pranita Balusu, Alexis Smith, Michelle Thorpe*

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Tuesday, December 11, 2012

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Chairperson Carvey called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 7 - Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Richard Graham, Jayson Graves, Lynn Loebis, Dahlvin Peterson and Beth Tilove

**Absent** 2 - Thomas Dohr and Samantha Phillips

*Non-Voting Members Present: Kurt Dawson, Mike Hartner, Roger Moore, and Michelle Thorpe*

*Non-Voting Members Absent: Pranita Balusu, Adam Kochenderfer, and Alexis Smith*

*Others Present: Sandy Niks, and Brandon Thompson*

*Committee Members Dohr, Phillips, and Balusu provided previous notice they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2012-0460 Regular Meeting - November 13, 2012

**Attachments:** [11-13-12 GSAB draft minutes.pdf](#)  
[Resolution.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Tilove, seconded by Gauthier, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 7 - Carvey, Gauthier, Graham, Graves, Loebis, Peterson and Tilove

**Absent** 2 - Dohr and Phillips

**Resolved** that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes

the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2012 as presented.

## COMMUNICATIONS

*None at this time.*

## PUBLIC COMMENT

*Sandy Niks and Brandon Thompson were present. Chairperson Carvey acknowledged there were no comments at this time.*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 2008-0130 GSAB Administrative & Strategic Sub-Committee

*No report at this time.*

**Discussed**

### 2008-0131 GSAB Communication, Promotion & Education Sub-Committee

*No report at this time.*

**Discussed**

### 2008-0132 GSAB Property Nominations & Acquisitions Sub-Committee

*Vice Chairperson Gauthier distributed an updated internal log he maintains regarding the status of property nominations and acquisitions to include the recent Council approval of the GSAB parcel recommendations on Adams Road.*

#### **Feedback from presentation to City Council on December 3, 2012 regarding the recommendation of the parcels on Adams Road**

*On behalf of the Board, Vice Chairperson Gauthier thanked Members Graham and Phillips for a great job on the presentation. Members discussed the Council question regarding any maintenance costs along Adams Road if the parcels were purchased for green space. Mr. Mike Hartner, Director of Parks & Forestry Department explained that green space parcels with road frontage would probably fall under the property maintenance code unless there was a wetland area or something that required protection. The maintenance costs would typically be incurred by the Parks & Forestry Department under a contract.*

**Discussed**

### 2008-0133 GSAB Stewardship & Advocacy Sub-Committee

*No report at this time.*

**Discussed**

**2012-0443** Discuss Stewardship Management Plan

*Chairperson Carvey opened the floor for discussion by presenting figures he estimated on the Green Space Millage Fund. He recapped some properties that are still of interest to be preserved as green space and estimated their purchase cost which may leave approximately \$3.5 million dollars in the millage fund.*

*Mr. Hartner presented some broad ideas for discussion regarding a stewardship management plan. Last August, City Council representative Ravi Yalamanchi requested that this Board present a stewardship management plan for green space parcels purchased with the millage funds and also left the door open for other stewardship ideas as well. City Council created the GSAB in 2005 and can expand its role and purpose if they so choose. Mr. Hartner proposed that GSAB explore the possibility of a city-wide stewardship plan that not only encompasses green space parcels, but includes other open space and public land in Rochester Hills such as the Clinton River along the trail, city parkland open space, and perhaps public open space, in general. Stewardship activities including signage, natural features preservation, conservation easements, steep slope protection, river log jam removal, prescribed burns, aerial sprays, and normal maintenance could all be considered, however require funding that is currently not available. The current Green Space millage language would have to be changed by a vote of the residents in order to repurpose the funds to continue to include green space purchases and add a stewardship management plan, however that becomes defined and approved. A comprehensive stewardship management plan would be a long term benefit as well as a tremendous legacy left by the GSAB to Rochester Hills. He also distributed an article called, "We're In It for the Long Haul!"*

*The Board discussed the following concepts:*

- \* Conservation easements*
- \* Open space in park lands*
- \* Riverbend Park and other undeveloped park lands*
- \* Wooded areas in Spencer and Borden parks*
- \* Invasive plant removal using volunteers and hired contractors*
- \* Signage to protect fragile areas and educate users*
- \* Protection against encroachment from adjacent neighbors*
- \* Establishment of a stewardship trust fund in perpetuity*
- \* Restore river and stream banks*
- \* Matching funds for grant awards*
- \* Sharing technology and information with subdivision associations and residents*

*Member Peterson distributed a draft stewardship mission statement and an outline regarding the Niswander baseline assessment performed on the acquired green space properties in 2010. He also discussed defining stewardship goals and objectives to include protection of water, health and quality, invasive plant removal, community involvement and caring for open space, public involvement, awareness and volunteerism, prevention of soil*

*erosion, trash and rubbish removal, increasing functionality of wetlands and forested areas, aesthetics, scenic value preservation, adjacent landowner awareness and education and coordination with other Oakland County green space parcels and organizations.*

*Vice Chairperson Gauthier distributed an outline listing ideas for brainstorming a stewardship plan. He also suggested to conduct an inventory to determine the different categories of open space within the city and how they were purchased.*

*Chairperson Carvey suggested that subcommittees be established to work in small groups and report back to the full Board. The Board consensus was to establish three (3) subcommittees with the following responsibilities:*

*\* Define property inventory: Members Carvey, Gauthier, Hartner and Balusu*

*\* Define stewardship for Rochester Hills and develop a mission statement: Members Tilove, Graves, Peterson, Dohr, Thorpe*

*\* Research what other communities have done regarding stewardship and how to measure results: Members Phillips, Graham, Loeb, and Smith*

*The subcommittees will meet and report to the full Board at the January GSAB meeting. The Board agreed that it may take several months to define a comprehensive stewardship plan before it can be presented to City Council for approval.*

**Discussed**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*None at this time.*

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*Discuss 2013 meeting dates*

*Members briefly discussed the meeting dates for 2013 which are typically the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in Room 130. The exception is November and December due to the holidays. The consensus was to meet on Tuesday, January 22, 2013. The 2013 meeting schedule will be adopted by resolution at that time.*

## **NEXT MEETING DATE**

*- Tuesday, January 22, 2013, 7 p.m.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Carvey adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.*

*Minutes prepared by Denise Mertz.*

*Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the \_\_\_\_\_ 2013 Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.*

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*Gerald Carvey, Chairperson*

DRAFT