



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

Green Space Advisory Board

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309
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Home Page:
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Chairperson Gerald Carvey

Members: Thomas Dohr, Tim Gauthier, Richard Graham, Adam Kochenderfer, Lynn Loeb, Dahlvin Peterson, Samantha Phillips, Beth Tilove

Council Member Nathan Klomp

Youth Representatives: Pranita Balusu, Laisa Magucha, Michelle Thorpe

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present 8 - Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Lynn Loeb, Dahlvin Peterson, Beth Tilove, Richard Graham, Samantha Phillips and Thomas Dohr

Absent 1 - Adam Kochenderfer

Non-Voting Members Present: Kurt Dawson, Roger Moore, Nathan Klomp, Laisa Magucha and Michelle Thorpe

Non-Voting Members Absent: Mike Hartner and Pranita Balusu

Others Present: Mr. Jason Graves, resident of Rochester Hills and Mr. Chris Bunch, Executive Director, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy.

Committee Members Kochenderfer and Hartner provided previous notice they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2011-0400 Regular Meeting - August 23, 2011

Attachments: [08-23-11 GSAB draft minutes.pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

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

Aye 8 - Carvey, Gauthier, Loeb, Peterson, Tilove, Graham, Phillips and Dohr

Absent 1 - Kochenderfer

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2011 as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

The 2011-2012 Rochester Hills Government Youth Council members appointed to GSAB are Pranita Balusu, Laisa Magucha and Michelle Thorpe. The Board welcomed Ms. Magucha and Ms. Thorpe who are returning members. Unfortunately, Ms. Balusu did not receive the e-mail meeting notification and was not in attendance for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jason Graves, Rochester Hills resident, was in attendance.

*Chairperson Carvey noted that **New Business** will be the next matter of discussion and introduced Mr. Chris Bunch, Executive Director of Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy.*

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Chris Bunch recently joined Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy as the Executive Director. He gave a brief synopsis on his background as an experienced land protection professional. The Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy (SRRLC) is a private non-profit organization designed to preserve open space property regarding six rivers in four counties. The Belle, the Clinton, the Flint, the Rouge and the Shiawassee Rivers have watersheds in Oakland, Macomb, Genesee and Lapeer counties. SRRLC has formed a new kayaking league as a way to experience these rivers.

Mr. Bunch explained how SRRLC works with private land owners who wish to protect their land from being developed. One method is using a conservation easement as a restriction on property. SRRLC will accept conservation easements and agree to enforce them forever. In return, the landowner typically receives a tax deduction according to IRS standards. SRRLC also works with governmental units that wish to acquire land, as well as developers regarding mitigation projects.

SRRLC's current goal is to move into a more pro-active pursuit by identifying priorities for acquisition and fostering partnerships with Oakland, Macomb, Genesee and Lapeer counties. This approach will provide a platform to begin seeking funds for acquisitions. Mr. Bunch expressed that SRRLC is not interested in competing with GSAB for acquisitions in Rochester Hills, but rather cooperating and working together to protect acquired land.

A common goal is stewardship. SRRLC has an established relationship with Oakland Township overseeing their stewardship program. Mr. Bunch suggested various funding resources such as the Department of Natural Resource Landowner Incentive Program, the National Resource Conservation Service, and the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program to which GSAB may apply for stewardship funds.

Mr. Bunch offered any assistance in the future. The Board members thanked him for his presentation. Mr. Bunch exited the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2007-0753 Update regarding any nominated properties

Nothing to report at this time.

Discussed

2008-0130 GSAB Administrative & Strategic Sub-Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

Discussed

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

Member Tilove reported the sub-committee met to discuss the property boundary signs for acquired green space parcels. A draft design was distributed. The Board discussed the proposed verbiage to delineate the boundaries between preserved property and private property. Discussion will continue at the next GSAB.

Discussed

2008-0132 GSAB Property Nominations & Acquisitions Sub-Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

Discussed

2008-0133 GSAB Stewardship & Advocacy Sub-Committee

Member Peterson reported the sub-committee met to discuss a stewardship pilot project on the Harding Road parcel scheduled for Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The fall work plan will be to remove autumn olive and buckthorn invasive species. The spring work plan would be to remove garlic mustard. All board members are invited to participate. Naturalist Ranger Lance DeVoe will use a chain saw to cut large invasive branches while members drag the cuttings to create natural habitat piles. Members Graham and Phillips will map the invasive areas on the Harding Road parcel, provide identification sheets, and document the removal process.

The pilot project will help estimate the number of volunteer hours and supplies, etc. needed to help determine a cost structure for a stewardship program which would then be presented to City Council by the Stewardship sub-committee in 2012.

Staff will post a special notice for the pilot project.

Discussed

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Carvey noted he will be attending a free program sponsored by an Oakland County environmental group held on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at Springfield Oaks County Park. It will focus on a green infrastructure celebration from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mr. Roger Moore, City Surveyor, mentioned that the temporary bypass of the Avon Creek restoration project has been converted into a linear wetland and a retaining pool was created with rocks.

Chairperson Carvey commented that the October 25 GSAB meeting may be cancelled if there are no pressing issues and because the stewardship pilot project is scheduled for October 22. Members will be notified.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 7:00 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 _____ Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.

Gerald Carvey, Chairperson