



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Final

Green Space Advisory Board

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Rochester Hills, MI
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Home Page:
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Chairperson Darlene Janulis, Vice Chairperson Jayson Graves
Members: Peter Beightol, Joe Bruce, Philip Leach, David McCracken, Andrea Merritt, Heidi Morris, Terry Stephens
Council Member Susan Bowyer Ph.D.
Youth Representatives: Ryan Barrett, Caroline Bull and Maya Vijayakumar

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

6:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Janulis called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Peter Beightol, Jayson Graves, Heidi Morris, Darlene Janulis, Philip Leach, Terry Stephens, Joe Bruce, Andrea Merritt and David McCracken

Non-voting members present: Matt Einheuser, Susan Bowyer, Ph.D., Ryan Barrett, Maya Vijayakumar

Non-voting members absent: Ken Elwert, Lance DeVoe, Caroline Bull

Others present: Pam & Andy Wallace

Committee Members Ken Elwert and Lance DeVoe provided prior notice that they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2020-0384](#) Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting - July 28, 2020

Attachments: [07-28-20 GSAB Minutes Final.pdf](#)
[07-28-20 Minutes Resolution.pdf](#)

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

Aye 9 - Beightol, Graves, Morris, Janulis, Leach, Stephens, Bruce, Merritt and McCracken

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Green Space Advisory Board Meeting held on July 28, 2020 be approved as presented.

STAFF REPORT

Matt Einheuser presented the staff report. Cardno has been finishing the summer plans and are moving into fall plans. Focus on Innovation Hills, Ruby and Harding to get them into maintenance mode. Met with the fire department about a controlled burn plan at Harding. Einheuser mentioned there will be a notice sent to nearby residents and property owners.

Einheuser said the cutoff channel is plugged and the water is running over the damn now. This helps with invasive species, specifically sea lamprey. The US Fish & Wildlife Service completed this project.

The property adjacent to Cloverport has a building project underway. They have been clearing brush and trees which looks very drastic. We have received some calls from concerned citizens. This project has already been approved by planning and city council.

Einheuser said the phragmites treatments will be starting soon. 14 HOAs and residents will be conducting treatments. We will also be spraying some road right-of-ways and working with the county to do some more road right-of-ways. The more people we get to treat it, the better off we are. Member Morris mentioned reaching out to schools to treat their properties as well. Einheuser will look into that.

Einheuser mentioned the Community Canopy program for private property. 200 trees were gone in 48 hours. We plan to do it again in the spring.

Water Resources Coordinator, Tim Pollizzi, completed a pre proposal for a grant to do a restoration project on the river near Eagle's Landing. Pollizzi was asked to write the full proposal. He hopes to leverage some of the GS money for grant matching. Member Graves asked for more information on the project. Einheuser said a number of years ago the Water Resources Commission office did some work because a sewer main was exposed due to the erosion. That redirected some of the flow upstream, that started eroding an area upstream. Discussion Ensued.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pam Wallace introduced herself as an original member of GSAB. She discussed the origin of GSAB and her role. Wallace was under the impression that the Rochester College property would be under the steep slope ordinance and conservation easement and she is concerned about erosion and Green Space. She reached out to Matt Einheuser to discuss. She would recommend trying to get some of the proposed units off the bluffs. The PUD waives all requirements in the Natural Features Ordinance. Dr. Bowyer mentioned the original plans were much larger. It's an 8 acre parcel, they are leaving 4 acres between the development and the easement. People will be allowed to park and access the Green Space from their property. Dr. Bowyer also mentioned we are not allowed to pursue properties, the property needs to be nominated. Chairperson Janulis mentioned we don't have the same funds that we had when the GSAB was started. Einheuser mentioned checking with city attorney and reaching out to potential properties, this is an outreach and education. Wallace would like to see the city stand by the ordinances, she doesn't want to see us sacrifice the valuable areas of the city. Member Beightol would like to see a summary on this project so we can learn from it. Einheuser guided everyone to the website for the project information. Discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairperson Janulis mentioned the City council presentation. Dr. Bowyer suggested presenting at the October 19th meeting. Chairperson Janulis mentioned removing some of the background information and just hit the high points. Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

Green Space Projects Update

Matt Einheuser showed and discussed photos of progress in the Green Spaces. Einheuser spoke about garlic mustard and that it would be a great project for volunteers because it just involves pulling. Chairperson Janulis said she will use some of the photos for the presentation to city council. Member Graves about how the transition has gone with Cardno. Einheuser said it's all going well so far, we've learned quite a bit. Einheuser really likes the mapping and they are currently under budget. Graves also asked about the GIS mapping. Matt said he could include some screen shots of the maps in his staff report.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Janulis adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Megan Stencil.

Minutes were approved as presented at the October 27, 2020 Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.

Darlene Janulis, Chairperson