

Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

Green Space Advisory Board

1000 Rochester Hills Dr. Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (248) 656-4600 Home Page: www.rochesterhills.org

Chairperson William Windscheif, Vice Chairperson Paul Funk Members: Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Lynn Loebs, Lorraine McGoldrick, Dahlvin Peterson, Jack Robinson, Pamela Wallace Council Member Ravi Yalamanchi Youth Representatives: Aly Difilippo, Leo Oriet, Amith Nagesh

 Tuesday, December 16, 2008
 7:00 PM
 1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Windscheif called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- **Present** 7 Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Lorraine McGoldrick, Pamela Wallace, William Windscheif, Lynn Loebs and Dahlvin Peterson
- Absent 2 Paul Funk and Jack Robinson

Non-Voting Members Present: Mike Hartner, Ravi Yalamanchi

Non-Voting Members Absent: Kurt Dawson, Roger Moore, Aly Difilippo, Leo Oriet, Amith Nagesh

Others Present: Residents Andy Krupp and Melinda Hill, Mayor Bryan Barnett, Nina Misuraca Ignaczak, Senior Planner, Oakland County Planning & Economic Development Services

Committee Members Funk and Difilippo provided previous notice they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2008-0668 Regular Meeting - October 28, 2008

Attachments: 102808 GSAB Draft Minutes.pdf Resolution.pdf

A motion was made by Carvey, seconded by Peterson, that this matter be Approved. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

- Aye 7 Carvey, Gauthier, McGoldrick, Wallace, Windscheif, Loebs and Peterson
- Absent 2 Funk and Robinson

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 28, 2008 as presented.

[Member Robinson entered 7:06 PM]

- Present 8 Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Lorraine McGoldrick, Jack Robinson, Pamela Wallace, William Windscheif, Lynn Loebs and Dahlvin Peterson
- Absent 1 Paul Funk
- 2008-0677 Regular Meeting November 18, 2008

Attachments: <u>111808 Draft Minutes.pdf</u> Resolution.pdf

A motion was made by Gauthier, seconded by Loebs, that this matter be Approved.

The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

- Aye 8 Carvey, Gauthier, McGoldrick, Robinson, Wallace, Windscheif, Loebs and Peterson
- Absent 1 Funk

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 18, 2008 as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson Windscheif read a proclamation to thank Member Robinson for his service to the GSAB. Mr. Robinson submitted his resignation at the November GSAB and announced his retirement and relocation out-of-state.

[Mayor Bryan Barnett entered at 7:10 PM]

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Barnett thanked GSAB members for their dedication and hard work. He announced the agreement has been signed for the Harding Road property acquisition with Council's approval.

He explained the new single-hauler waste program with Allied Waste Industries that will begin in Rochester Hills on March 30, 2009. It has a recycle bank program as a component. Allied Waste will be able to weigh recycled items from homeowners which can be applied toward "points" for coupons to be redeemed at various retailers, food chains, etc. The City will designate a non-profit GSAB stewardship fund to which homeowners can donate points in lieu of coupons. Allied Waste can transfer the points into dollars which would be deposited into the non-profit stewardship fund. The GSAB stewardship fund will be the only choice to receive donated points for at least two years. After which the administration may designate another non-profit fund.

A brief discussion ensued regarding various aspects of the recycle bank program. Chairperson Windscheif mentioned that GSAB would like to make a presentation recommending a stewardship plan to City Council at a future meeting.

Mayor Barnett was asked for suggestions on how GSAB might request negotiations be re-opened on a nominated property if negotiations seem stalled. The Mayor explained that the Administration always keeps the "doors open" and property owners have a direct contact either to him or Mr. Mike Hartner, Director of Parks & Forestry. However, when negotiations seemed stalled, it is usually concerning the property value versus purchase price.

GSAB members thanked Mayor Barnett for his communication with the Board. The Mayor exited the meeting [time not noted].

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2008-0133 GSAB Stewardship & Advocacy Sub-Committee

Member Carvey introduced Ms. Nina Misuraca Ignaczak, Senior Planner with Oakland County Economic Development Services. Ms. Ignaczak gave a presentation explaining the value of preserving green space as studied by the Environmental Stewardship division of Oakland County. The following points were noted:

* Natural resources are key components of "green" infrastructure assets which include forests, parks, natural areas, wetlands, waterways, etc. They are public assets that have value. Invasive species or silted rivers that no longer function could have negative costs if nothing is done in the future.

* Oakland County has looked at several studies including one done in 2007 by Michigan State University which showed that Michigan ranked 47 out of 50 states in conservation spending, despite the fact that Michigan is in the top 10 for natural resource assets.

* Economic and political conditions impact resource spending.

* Green assets such as parks, trails, rivers, lakes, etc. have a positive impact on property values.

- * Natural resources provide "eco-system services".
- * Studies were also conducted on the "old economy versus new economy" and

included various attributes and resources that attract people and businesses to Oakland County.

A general discussion ensued including a suggestion that Ms. Ignaczak give the same presentation to City Council to help promote a stewardship plan. There are many local resources for stewardship guidance. Ms. Ignaczak offered further assistance if needed. Board members thanked her for the presentation.

The Stewardship sub-committee distributed a draft copy of a Green Space Stewardship presentation for discussion. The presentation included a proposal to utilize the Environmental Education Center along with local schools, volunteers, Six Rivers Regional Land Conservancy and possible signage to build capacity, expertise and awareness for an inexpensive stewardship program within the City. Board members were requested to provide additional feedback to Member Carvey by January 5, 2009. The Stewardship presentation will be discussed again at an upcoming GSAB meeting. In lieu of Member Robinson's vacancy, Member Dahlvin volunteered to serve on the Stewardship sub-committee.

This matter was Discussed

2008-0403 Discussion regarding Yates Property

It was suggested to discuss the status of the Yates presentation under LF #2008-0132 - *Property Nominations & Acquisition Sub-committee report.*

This matter was Discussed

2008-0130 GSAB Administrative & Strategic Sub-Committee

Mr. Hartner provided an update on the income and expenditures of the GSAB Millage Fund. The balance as of December 10, 2008 was \$2,493,460 of which \$1,213,900 will be deducted for the closing costs to purchase the Harding Road property. After collection of 2008 taxes, the projected balance on April 30, 2009 will be approximately \$2.3 million.

This matter was Discussed

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

No report at this time.

This matter was Discussed

2008-0132 GSAB Property Nominations & Acquisitions Sub-Committee

Member Gauthier recapped the status of the Yates property presentation. The nomination is for the north section of Yates property which encompasses three (3) parcels. A draft copy of the presentation was distributed for discussion.

Chairperson Windscheif recapped the discussion from the November GSAB meeting that led to the nomination of the Yates north parcels. The property has several positive features that include being located next to a park and by the

Clinton River. The property is highly visible and can be purchased with a relatively small amount of GSAB funds. A sign could be installed that says something like "Your GSAB dollars at work". If the property were to remain private, people that access it would be trespassing.

It was suggested that the Sub-committee meet to revise the presentation based on the discussion and include updated photos. It was also suggested that the Property Interest Acquisition Process flowchart be reviewed at an upcoming GSAB meeting. It may need to be updated to better explain how the nomination process is conducted based on the last two years of experience.

This matter was Discussed

2007-0753 Update regarding any nominated properties

Mr. Hartner reported that *Mr.* Harry Terbrueggen with Elro Corporation and developer of Cross Creek and Clear Creek subdivisions has nominated approximately 53 acres of property located on the southeast corner of Sheldon and Mead Roads. The nomination form has been submitted to the Clerk's office. The arial, topography and wetland maps will be forwarded to Board members via US mail. *Mr.* Trebuggan gave permission for board members to walk the property. The property will be discussed further at the January GSAB meeting.

This matter was Discussed

NEW BUSINESS

None presented at this time.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Windscheif wished everyone a safe and happy holiday. On behalf of the Board members, he wished to convey sincere thanks and appreciation to Member Wallace and Mr. Krupp for their service on GSAB and encouraged them to continue to attend meetings.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, January 27, 2009 - 7:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Windscheif adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Minutes prepared by Denise Mertz.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the _____ 2009 Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting. William Windscheif, Chairperson