



# Rochester Hills

## Minutes - Draft

### Green Space Advisory Board

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

*Chairperson William Windscheif*

*Members: Gerald Carvey, Laura Douglas, Tim Gauthier, Lynn Loeb, Lorraine McGoldrick,  
Dahlvin Peterson, Linda Raschke, Beth Tilove*

*Council Member Nathan Klomp*

*Youth Representatives: Aly Difilippo, Sresht Rengesh, Michelle Thorpe*

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Tuesday, August 24, 2010

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

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#### CALL TO ORDER

*Chairperson Windscheif called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.*

#### ROLL CALL

**Present** 9 - Gerald Carvey, Tim Gauthier, Lorraine McGoldrick, William Windscheif, Lynn Loeb, Dahlvin Peterson, Linda Raschke, Laura Douglas and Beth Tilove

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

*Non-Voting Members Absent: Aly Difilippo*

*Others Present: Mayor Bryan Barnett*

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*None presented at this time.*

#### COMMUNICATIONS

*Chairperson Windscheif acknowledged that staff sent a thank you letter to the owners of the Rochester Road parcels which noted that the parcels would not be recommended for acquisition at this time.*

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*Mayor Barnett provided an update on the City's branding campaign and how it relates to the City's acquired green space. In 2009, City Council approved funding for the Administration to undertake a study of the City logo and letterhead currently used to devise one consistent image and message going forward for marketing, press releases, and public awareness. The finished product will be completed and unveiled in approximately 30 days. GSAB will be able to use the new logo and message to promote and identify the green space parcels acquired in Rochester Hills.*

The Mayor explained that a third-party administrator to the RecycleBank points program changed the process due to a huge expansion of nation-wide participants and choices. The change resulted in ending the choice to donate points toward a Stewardship Program for the City's green space parcels. In an effort to streamline the program, RecycleBank recently established a "green schools initiative" within school districts that recycle. The Mayor has had discussions with principals at Rochester Schools to determine how they will be awarding grants up to \$5,000 for a "green school project" which could include a stewardship project if approved by the schools.

It was suggested that the Rochester Hills Government Youth Council (RHGYC) could propose a partnership to enhance the Rochester Schools Science program by utilizing the City's green space properties and developing a stewardship project to assist in their preservation.

Discussion ensued regarding a 2011 budgeted expense of \$22,000 from the Green Space Millage Fund for personnel support to GSAB. The Mayor noted that it was a high-end estimate and only direct expenditures within reason are justified such as staff time preparing GSAB meeting agendas, minutes, parcel maps and preliminary parcel scores.

Mr. Mike Hartner, Director of Parks & Forestry, read an opinion letter from the City Attorney, John Staran, dated April 14, 2009, stating, "...reasonable cost of administration of the green space program and Green Space Advisory Board ("GSAB") may be funded by the green space millage, as may costs associated with survey, appraisal, environmental assessment, legal, title work..."

The Mayor agreed that there are many things to consider for stewardship and management of acquired open space parcels, especially as the millage will end in 2015. He looks forward to feedback from GSAB. The Board expressed appreciation to the Mayor for his updates.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairperson Windscheif announced that there were no members of the public present.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2007-0753** Update regarding any nominated properties

Mr. Hartner provided a brief update regarding the grant for the Sheldon/Mead property. The Phase I Environmental study was submitted with no issues. The title search is complete. Two appraisals are expected within three weeks. After the Department of Natural Resources & Environment (DNRE) representatives review the paperwork, the face-to-face negotiations can begin. The DNRE will hold 10% of the grant funds after the closing of the property to perform an audit. It is expected that 90% of the grant funds will be received by the end of 2010.

Mr. Roger Moore, City Surveyor, provided an update regarding a "319 grant" for the original Mead property reviewed by GSAB. The grant is for up to 50% of

*the easement costs, approximately \$250,000, and is for the acquisition of an easement to preserve a portion of the parcel. Preliminary discussions are underway with the property owner. Mr. Kurt Dawson, Assessor/Treasurer, noted that he recommends the use of an MAI certified appraiser because the appraisal involves a separate valuation of the development rights. The Green Space Millage Fund will be used for matching dollars required for the grant.*

*Mayor Barnett added that it has been a fantastic summer for grants. An offer has been made on the Clinton River valley 2 parcel and they are a motivated seller. Due to the number of parcel acquisitions in process, it is possible to double the City's open space parcels by the end of 2010.*

*The Board was very pleased that Mayor Barnett could attend tonight's meeting and thanked him for his support. He exited the meeting.*

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

*No update at this time.*

**This matter was Discussed**

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

*Member Dahlvin Peterson noted that a request to the Mayor has been made for consideration of press releases to inform the public of all green space properties acquired. After hearing the Mayor's update tonight, the Board agreed that a future press release will have more impact as it will contain any new land acquisitions that are expected to take place before the end of 2010.*

**This matter was Discussed**

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

*Member Tim Gauthier reviewed the updated internal log he maintains on property nominations and acquisitions. Total acreage acquired will also be added to the log. The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Gauthier for his efforts.*

**This matter was Discussed**

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

*Member Gerald Carvey noted that the baseline assessments for the City's open space parcels have been completed. The Stewardship sub-committee will be meeting to continue discussions regarding a Stewardship Program.*

*Mr. Moore added that along with the "319 grant" for the Mead parcel, an additional \$15,000 will be granted to Six Rivers Conservancy for stewardship and to represent a third-party interest in the parcel.*

*Mr. Hartner reminded the Board that the donated points from the RecycleBank program before it was changed were received by the Community Foundation for the Stewardship Fund that was established last year.*

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This matter was Discussed

## NEW BUSINESS

*Ms. Michelle Thorpe, Rochester Hills Government Youth Group (RHGYC) relayed that they had their orientation earlier today for 2010-2011 year. There are five new members for a total of 14 on their committee.*

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

*Mr. Hartner provided an update of the revenues and expenses for the Green Space Millage Fund. As of July 31, 2010, the fund balance was \$3,319,447. It does not yet reflect expenses necessary to acquire the Sheldon/Mead Road parcel. Amounts shown for land purchases include closing costs for surveys, title searches and proration of taxes.*

*It was suggested for the next financial update to reflect grants and land donations received along with land values relative to open spaces acquired. The Board appreciated the update.*

## NEXT MEETING DATE

*- Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.*

## ADJOURNMENT

*There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Windscheif adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m.*

*Minutes prepared by Denise Mertz.*

*Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the \_\_\_\_\_ 2010 Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.*

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*William Windscheif, Chairperson*