



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

Green Space Advisory Board

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Home Page:
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Chairperson Gerald Carvey, Vice Chairperson Dahlvin Peterson
Members: Peter Beightol, Tim Gauthier, Jayson Graves, Darlene Janulis, Sandra Niks,
Donald Price, Terry Stephens
Council Member Susan Bowyer Ph.D.
Youth Representatives: Grace Currier, Elena Romund and Samina Saifee

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Tim Gauthier, Jayson Graves, Darlene Janulis, Dahlvin Peterson, Donald Price and Terry Stephens

Absent 3 - Peter Beightol, Gerald Carvey and Sandra Niks

Non-voting members present: Lance DeVoe, Dr. Susan Bowyer, Samina Saifee

Non-voting members absent: Kurt Dawson with notice, Grace Currier, Elena Romund

Board Members Beightol and Carvey provided notice that they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused

Others: Patrick Endres

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2016-0043](#) Regular Meeting - January 26, 2016

Attachments: [Resolution.pdf](#)
[GSAB Meeting Minutes 1-26-16 Draft.pdf](#)

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2016 as presented.

Aye 5 - Gauthier, Graves, Peterson, Price and Stephens

Abstain 1 - Janulis

Absent 3 - Beightol, Carvey and Niks

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2016 as presented/amended.

COMMUNICATIONS

Vice Chairperson Peterson welcomed new member Terry Stephens and asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None at this time.

2008-0130 GSAB Administrative & Strategic Sub-Committee

No report at this time.

Discussed

2015-0503 Concept plans for individual Green Space properties.

Attachments: [Rivercrest maps.pdf](#)
[Harding Maps.pdf](#)

Board Member Gauthier gave an overview of the February 11, 2016 subcommittee meeting regarding the Harding Concept Plan. Board Members Gauthier, Beightol and Graves met with Park Ranger Lance DeVoe and discussed what they wanted a concept plan to accomplish for each of the Green Space properties. The following goals were proposed:

- Provide a long term vision so that when resources are available the GSAB is ready to act*
- Items not addressed in the Niswander Stewardship plan*
- Refer to previous GSAB mission / vision statement objectives*
- Improve connection between Green Space properties and the community*
- Note short term vs. long term items*

Problems to address at each parcel:

- Invasive vegetation*
- Trash*
- Vandalism*
- Adjacent neighbor issues
 - Encroachment*
 - Invasive vegetation**
- Hazards / risks, fallen trees that prevent trail use etc*
- Education / awareness
 - Lack of awareness of green spaces*
 - Lack of understanding of green space millage intent**

Opportunities at each parcel (some will apply more to Harding and White than

other Green Spaces)

- *Education, outreach, communication, promotion / awareness*
 - *Site specific maps, flyer, brochures*
 - *List of site program opportunities; what to come and see on your visit*
- *How to increase community utilization of green spaces*
- *Volunteer and donor opportunities lists*
 - *Develop master list of volunteer group contacts*
 - *Develop master list of volunteer jobs*
 - *Site clean up projects*
- *Access - steps, parking, trails, overlook, benches etc*
- *Signage*

Vice Chairperson Peterson reviewed what is and what is not allowable in developing or improving Green Space properties. Board Members discussed the overall goals of the Concept Plan as well as the importance of selecting names for the Green Space properties. The Board agreed upon the necessity of continual education efforts with City Council and the public to keep everyone aware that the Green Space properties are not public parks but passive Green Space properties. Discussion wrapped up with Board Members agreeing to site visits to the White and Harding properties prior to developing Concept Plans for either location. Park Ranger Lance DeVoe will lead a site visit for Board Members to the White property on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday, April 12, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Harding property. Special Notices of the site visits will be posted as required.

Discussed

2008-0131

GSAB Communication, Promotion & Education Sub-Committee

Board Member Graves opened the discussion on the April 30, 2016 Discovery Hike at Riverbend Park. Park Ranger DeVoe reported that he has located the Discovery Hike banner and requested that the Mayor's Office send out a "Save the Date" press release for this year's Hike. Additionally, he has confirmed with Niswander Environmental which staff members will be at the event to discuss and display current stewardship work. Park Ranger DeVoe will send additional press releases on the event through the Mayor's Office and will request to have the information posted on the City's website. Board Member Graves requested that the Discovery Hike be posted on the City Hall signboard. Council Member Bowyer will mention the event in her next update to City Council. Board Members discussed potential publicity efforts for the Discovery Hike. Board Member Graves wrapped up the discussion by giving a brief history of the Discovery Hikes for the benefit of new Board Member Stephens.

Discussed

2008-0132

GSAB Property Nominations & Acquisitions Sub-Committee

No report at this time.

Discussed

2008-0133

GSAB Stewardship & Advocacy Sub-Committee

Vice Chairperson Peterson reported that his subcommittee would be working with Park Ranger DeVoe to determine when it will be appropriate to have volunteer groups participate with stewardship projects.

Discussed

[2012-0443](#)

Discuss Stewardship Management Plan

Park Ranger DeVoe gave the Board an update on the work currently being done by Niswander Environmental at the Harding and White Green Space properties. Niswander has completed seasonal work on the Harding pond enhancements, wet meadow and prairie areas and are now working to remove upland woody invasives at both Harding and White properties. Niswander will set a date for a volunteer Garlic Mustard pull at the Harding property in the coming months. Park Ranger DeVoe also reported that signs have been installed at the properties indicating "Green Space maintenance in progress".

Board Member Graves inquired if Niswander was on schedule with their work and if their work was within the estimates provided to the Board. Park Ranger DeVoe responded that Niswander was ahead of schedule on their work and that the first round of invoices had been received and they are within the scope outlined in the estimates.

Discussed

NEW BUSINESS

Park Ranger DeVoe informed the Board of a potential grant that the Clinton River Watershed Council is pursuing for an area along the Clinton River. The Yates Stream Restoration Project would impact areas along the Clinton River in Rochester Hills and Shelby Township. The Clinton River Watershed Council has reached out to the City of Rochester Hills, specifically to the Green Space Advisory Board requesting their support of this grant request with the commitment of matching Green Space millage funds if the grant is awarded. They are requesting that the GSAB request that City Council would support the grant with matching Green Space funds of \$10,000 a year for three years. The Clinton River Watershed Council is seeking the support of Shelby Township in this grant request as well.

After further Board discussion of the Yates Stream Restoration Project grant the following resolution was proposed:

Motion by Gauthier, seconded by Janulis,

Resolved, that the Green Space Advisory Board supports the grant for the Yates Stream Restoration Project and recommends that City Council commits matching amounts of Green Space dollars at \$10,000 a year for three years if the grant is approved.

The Yates Stream Restoration Project grant is spearheaded by the Clinton River Watershed Council and includes the participation of Shelby Township as well as the owners of the Yates Cider Mill who are adjacent property owners.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 6 - Gauthier, Graves, Janulis, Peterson, Price, Stephens

Absent - Beightol, Carvey, Niks

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Vice Chairperson Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Maureen Nakonek.

Gerald Carvey, Chairperson