



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

Green Space Advisory Board

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Rochester Hills, MI
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Home Page:
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Chairperson Gerald Carvey, Vice Chairperson Dahlvin Peterson
Members: Tim Gauthier, Richard Graham, Jayson Graves, Darlene Janulis, Thomas Neveau,
Sandra Niks, Samantha Phillips
Council Member Adam Kochenderfer
Youth Representatives: Omar Ilyas, Maura Losh, Shreya Reddy

Tuesday, March 24, 2015

7:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Carvey called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present 8 - Gerald Carvey, Richard Graham, Jayson Graves, Darlene Janulis, Thomas Neveau, Sandra Niks, Dahlvin Peterson and Samantha Phillips

Absent 1 - Tim Gauthier

Non voting members present: Kurt Dawson, Lance DeVoe, Mike Hartner, Adam Kochenderfer, Omar Ilyas and Maura Losh.

Non voting members absent: Shreya Reddy.

Committee member Tim Gauthier provided notice that he would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

Chairperson Garvey presented a proclamation to Richard Graham thanking him for his service to the Green Space Advisory Board.

Chairperson Garvey introduced new board member Darlene Janulis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2015-0058](#) Regular Meeting - January 27, 2015

Attachments: [1-27-15 GSAB Minutes Draft.pdf](#)
[Resolution.pdf](#)

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

Aye 8 - Carvey, Graham, Graves, Janulis, Neveau, Niks, Peterson and Phillips

Absent 1 - Gauthier

Resolved that the Green Space Advisory Board hereby approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2015, as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Carvey acknowledged that there were no members of the public present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2008-0130 GSAB Administrative & Strategic Sub-Committee

No report at this time.

Discussed

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

Committee members agreed that the next Discovery Walk would be held on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Riverbend Park. Details of the event will be brought to the April 28, 2015 GSAB meeting.

Discussed

2008-0132

GSAB Property Nominations & Acquisitions Sub-Committee

Mr. Hartner, Director of Parks and Forestry stated that Board Member Tim Gauthier wanted to review the properties that had been previously nominated, walked and scored by the Board but not yet acted upon. Mr. Gauthier had provided Board Members with a copy of his unofficial score sheet with updates on these properties.

Mr. Hartner gave an overview of the process that the GSAB developed since its inception to determine how properties would be evaluated. In 2005, Niswander, Environmental LLC conducted a Natural Features Inventory which identified the City's existing natural features and provided a baseline for property rankings. Mr. Hartner gave a historic review of the 80 plus properties the GSAB initially looked at and scored to determine the twenty-one properties that were walked, scored, discussed and in six cases acquired by the City. Mr. Hartner congratulated the Board on how far they have come and what they have done for the City.

Mr. Hartner provided the Board Members with a handout of a Power Point detailing fifteen properties that the Board had reviewed but to date had not recommended to City Council for purchase. (See file with presentation attached.)

Councilperson Kochenderfer stated that from Council's perspective this information is very important to help determine how much money to keep for future property acquisition and what to invest in the Green Space Perpetual Care Trust for future stewardship of the Green Space properties.

Discussion ensued on each of the properties with Mr. Hartner and Kurt Dawson, City Assessor/Treasurer giving updates on potential future housing development and the tax base that these developments would provide to the City. Mr. Hartner stated that a few of the properties were protected from future development by existing wetland laws and do not need to be under public ownership to be protected. Mr. Hartner concluded his review by advising the Board that they could revisit and rescore any of the properties in the future.

Vice Chairperson Peterson asked if the Yates property was still under consideration pending the rerouting of Dequindre Road. Mr. Hartner informed the Board that the Yates property had been considered in the past but the Detroit Water Department is planning on rerouting the water main along Dequindre and the owner of the Yates Cider Mill wanted to retain a controlling interest in the property to protect the dam that runs the Cider Mill. Mr. Hartner advised the Board that the Yates property would be reconsidered in the future after the road work and water main work is completed.

Further discussion ensued on the Adams and Tienken Road properties with Board Member Janulis inquiring if the City was actively pursuing the properties north of Nowicki Park. Mr. Hartner informed the Board that the City did send letters to the property owners but no further action has been taken to date. Mr. Hartner stated that Kurt Dawson looked at the value of all of the remaining properties and they are currently valued at \$1.6 million dollars. Mr. Hartner

stated that this is the type of information that City Council would take into consideration in making any decisions on future property acquisition. Mr. Hartner wrapped up the discussion with an explanation of what monies needed to be kept for future acquisition and operating expenses and the necessity of funding the trust fund for all future stewardship of the existing Green Space properties. The GSAB mission for this year is to develop the management plan to address these issues in the future.

Chairperson Carvey asked if there were any strong feelings by the Board Members to relook at any of the properties at this time.

Discussed

2015-0131 Presentation regarding properties previously reviewed by GSAB-3-24-15

Attachments: [GSAB Properties nominated for acquisition - 2015 review.pdf](#)

Discussed

2008-0133 GSAB Stewardship & Advocacy Sub-Committee

Chairperson Carvey inquired when the Board would be able to put together the plan to evaluate for stewardship. Vice Chairperson Peterson replied that the subcommittee needed to have another meeting with Steve Niswander before making recommendations to the Board. Mr. Hartner advised the Board that he has shared the work that the Board had done to this point with Steve Niswander and Mr. Niswander felt that this was a great start but there were a number of things that he could plug in to help with evaluations. Mr. Niswander has a scoring method in place for wetlands to easily identify and rank the conservation value (C value) of the properties. Mr. Hartner stated that this tool would be used in the future to develop the management plan and determine what projects and properties to recommend to City Council.

Discussed

2012-0443 Discuss Stewardship Management Plan

Chairperson Carvey asked when the management plan might be in place. Mr. Hartner advised that he hoped to have something in place by May.

Discussed

NEW BUSINESS

Board Members, Lance DeVoe and Mr. Hartner discussed controlled burns of phragmites and how best to control this invasive species.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATE

- Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Carvey adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Maureen Nakonek.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the _____, 2015 Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.

Gerald Carvey, Chairperson