



Rochester Hills

Minutes - Draft

Green Space Advisory Board

1000 Rochester Hills Dr
Rochester Hills, MI
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Home Page:
www.rochesterhills.org

Chairperson Jayson Graves, Vice Chairperson Joe Bruce

Members: *Stephanie Bennett, Louis Carrio, Jr., Jordon Gearhart, Chander Malhotra, Brian McCurdy, Heidi Morris, Susan Strunk*
Council Member *Jason Carlock*
Youth Representatives: *Eliza Pizzuti & Seo-Yun Woo*

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

6:00 PM

1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Graves called the Green Space Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Present 8 - Joe Bruce, Louis Carrio, Jordon Gearhart, Jayson Graves, Heidi Morris, Chander Malhotra, Brian McCurdy and Stephanie Bennett

Absent 1 - Susan Strunk

Non-voting members present: Matt Einheuser and Eliza Pizzuti

Non-voting members absent: Ken Elwert, Lance DeVoe, Jason Carlock and Seo-Yun Woo

Committee Members Susan Strunk, Ken Elwert, Lance DeVoe, Jason Carlock and Seo-Yun Woo provided prior notice that they would be unable to attend and asked to be excused.

Others present: Susan Dardaliese and Melissa Zaborski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2024-0405

Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting - June 25, 2024

Attachments: [06-25-24 GSAB Minutes Draft.pdf](#)
[06-25-24 GSAB Minutes Master.pdf](#)

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

Aye 8 - Bruce, Carrio, Gearhart, Graves, Morris, Malhotra, McCurdy and Bennett

Absent 1 - Strunk

STAFF REPORT

Matt Einheuser discussed how Stantec has been doing follow up foliar treatments over the summer. This included the prairie at city hall, which is looking great.

Einheuser also discussed that the Green Space contract with Stantec will expire at the end of this year. Member Carrio asked about logistics of a new company coming in. Discussion ensued and Chairperson Graves will be on the committee again to pick the next company used.

Einheuser explained that we will be meeting with Oakland County CISMA and CRW to host a fall native plant giveaway/sale. More information to follow.

Einheuser discussed the fall HOA showcase on September 18, 2024. Member Bruce will attend again to give his perspective of doing work on his HOA property. Member Morris to attend and help as well.

Einheuser mentioned meeting with engineers to look at possible future stream bank stabilization projects. These are not green space projects but they are through our water resources funding. In addition, the Bee property is still in a waiting stage due to a hold up of the grant funding being tied up with an unrelated state budget item. Discussion ensued.

Einheuser touched on the Auburn and Ruby green spaces. Both have some contaminated areas and the cleanup is out to bid. He also mentioned that the Phragmites program has about 30 applicants, which is our highest yet. Treatment to be completed late September.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson Graves had the newest member, Stephanie Bennett, introduce herself. Everyone else did a quick introduction.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Dardaliese asked how to start a green space committee in her community. She is a previous resident and lives in Lake Orion now. Discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cloverport Streambank Stabilization Project

Einheuser discussed the issues going on with the project. Due to the feedback received from contractors, it is going to be 2 to 3 times more than expected. The main issue is how to move the soil. Looking into applying for other grants for this project. Another option is to let the river fix itself, as it is already starting to. Member Malhotra asked how they would move the dirt if the project moved forward. Discussion ensued.

Innovation Hills Rope Bridge Update

Einheuser discussed that the support structures have been installed for the rope bridge. The rope structure may be installed by the end of the month. Bridge completion and opening is looking to be mid to late October, this will also include site restoration. Member Carrio inquired on the signage for the trail and bridge. Staff is working on marking the loop and having signage encouraging people to stay on the trail. Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Project / Budget Update

Einheuser shared a spreadsheet indicating green space projects and items that have been or need to be done. It depicts the preliminary numbers and also what has been invoiced at this time. This gives an idea of where the budget has been spent so far. Discussion ensued.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Member Morris brought up the idea of adjusting meetings to be quarterly, discussion ensued. Chairperson Graves suggested waiting till January to re-evaluate.

Member Bruce asked about letters reaching out to potential green space properties. This was last done in 2022. Staff will revisit to see if it was planned for every other year or every three years.

Chairperson Graves discussed Peter Beightol's celebration of life. All present gave a moment of silence in remembrance.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 6:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Graves adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Melissa Zaborski.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the _____ 2024 Regular Green Space Advisory Board Meeting.

Jayson Graves, Chairperson