

PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING - TUESDAY, May 20, 2008
4:00 P.M. – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - (3 Minutes per Speaker)

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 Minutes from April 15, 2008

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Recreation & Education – Structure and Activities

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Proposed Skate Park Site in Northwest portion of Veteran's Memorial Park

B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B-1 Approved Budget Update

B-2 Resolution regarding improvements to athletic fields

C - NEW BUSINESS

C-1 Capital Projects List

D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS

E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK FORCES

I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL (3 Minutes per Speaker)

J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH LAND ACQUISITION ISSUES (If Applicable)

K - TRANSMITTALS

K-1 City Council Items Update

K-2 Park Projects Update

K-3 Park and Recreation Events for April - May 2008

TELEVISED ON ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY TELEVISION NETWORK CHANNEL 16

LIVE: Tuesday May 20, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.

****Persons with disabilities are encouraged to participate. Accommodations, including sign language interpreters, may be arranged by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 994-2700 (V/TDD) at least 24 hours in advance.****



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 15, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Chair, L. Berauer.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (9) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, D. Barrett, J. Grand, J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, S. Rosencrans, T. Berla, S. Offen

Ex-Officio Members Present: (1) S. Kunselman

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (1) M. Anglin

Members Absent: (0) None

Staff Present: (14) Jayne Miller, Colin Smith, Greg Bazick, D. Thompson, M. Warba, J. Dehring, K.C. Bemish, J. Black, A. Kuras, J. Frenzel, L. Bowen

Guests: (8) Larry Deck, Rita Barvinok, Jennie Hale, Maureen Ybarra, Casey Battle, John Freshley, Kevin Devine, Glenn Thompson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Macomber asked the Commission if there was anything that needed to be discussed or if there were any additions or requests to be added to the agenda. There were none. The agenda was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

Casey Battle spoke on the conditions of the soccer fields at Fuller Field. He stated the fields are in poor shape, and he has played soccer in various places in the country and no longer plays at Fuller Field. Mr. Battle explained other clubs are renting other fields due to the safety concerns of playing on Fuller Fields.

Mr. Battle also stated the surrounding fields in the area are maintained better as well as being safer than Fuller Field.

John Freshley spoke on the conditions of the soccer fields at Fuller Field. Mr. Freshley stated he is a local entrepreneur in Ann Arbor and has been in Ann Arbor approximately nine years.

51 He has played soccer on Fuller Field but cannot any longer due to poor conditions as well
52 as being unsafe for him physically.

53
54 Soccer is not a special interest of a narrow group of people, and is one of the most
55 democratic and most popular sports; primarily all you need is a little ball that can be made
56 out of tape if you wish and bare feet to kick it.

57
58 There is no equipment required; this is why it is the largest youth participation sport not only
59 in the world, but also in this country. It is the largest youth participation sport in Ann Arbor,
60 both at the recreation and education level. Most of the children want to continue to develop
61 in the game and choose to do travel sports. Due to the conditions of the fields, travel sports
62 have become very expensive. Unfortunately many of our residents have discovered when
63 trying to privately fund fields through a single club it became unsustainable; that club is now
64 folding. This was not the best approach to providing fields to our community.

65
66 Pooling the efforts of all the clubs would be more efficient, and allow what is a very diverse
67 sport to be played.

68
69 **Maureen Ybarra** spoke on the conditions of the Soccer Fields, stating she has lived in Ann
70 Arbor for the last 5 years, previously residing in California. Ms.Ybarra explained the different
71 challenges faced with the fields due to the weather conditions here in Michigan. Also,
72 explaining the possibility of using turf fields versus using grass fields.

73
74 Ms. Ybarra stated the fields in the surrounding communities are well maintained. She stated
75 she has coached here for the last 9 years at many different levels and have children who
76 also play soccer. When playing on the fields in the surrounding communities that are well
77 groomed, it is a pleasure. The games that are held at Fuller Field as well as other local
78 fields have become difficult and several players wear ankle braces on occasion due to the
79 conditions.

80
81 Ms. Ybarra stated she is encouraged that the Park Advisory Commission is addressing this
82 issue.

83
84 **Jenny Hale** is a program officer and youth counselor advisor for the Ann Arbor Area
85 Community Foundation and also a member of the Ann Arbor Skate Park Action Community.

86
87 In 2007 the Youth Council conducted a needs assessment, 693 Ann Arbor teens were
88 surveyed regarding issues, concerns and programs that should be funded. She also passed
89 copies of the results of this survey to the Commission. The teens overwhelmingly responded
90 that after school recreation and social activities were the number one answer; 81% of the
91 teens responded.

92
93 The question regarding what programs teens participate in was also asked, 61% responded
94 again to the after school recreation and social activities. The Skate Park will be for
95 everyone, but youth under 18 years of age will likely be the primary users of this Skate Park.

96
97 Teens at this age cannot vote. They can tell the politicians and public officials that they care
98 about something. The Skate Park that this group envisions is beautiful; the plan is to
99 incorporate green spaces and landscaping in the design as well as public art. This is exactly
100 the type of Skate Park Ann Arbor should have.

101

102 As a Vets Park neighbor, the corner will be even more attractive with what is proposed.

103

104 The examples of other Skate Parks can be works of art themselves.

105

106 The proposed location does not include cutting down trees in the area. The skaters want
107 and desire shaded areas. The Community Foundation stands ready to consider serving as
108 fiduciary and has done this for other groups in the community for special projects that serve
109 a broad community. Recommending a location is the key to the Community Foundation's
110 involvement.

111

112 There are corporate and individual donors that are ready to make a donation but the group
113 needs a fiduciary and most organizations that could serve as one will require a location be
114 recommended. There is adequate time to get the location in the next 2 months so the group
115 can have a fiduciary in place by June 2008 and start accepting donations and applying for
116 grants by the summer.

117

118 Ms. Hale stated she supports the location of the Skate Park being at Veteran's Memorial
119 Park and urged The Park Advisory Commission to make an official recommendation to the
120 City Council regarding the location as soon as possible.

121

122 **Rita Barvinok** spoke on the Skate Park and also stated Ann Arbor has many different kinds
123 of recreational activities, stressing the need for a Skate Park in Ann Arbor. The Skate
124 boarders want a safe location for skateboarding; there would no longer be an excuse for
125 them to skate on the streets.

126

127 The Skate Park Action Committee has proposed Veteran's Memorial Park for the location of
128 the Skate Park. This is a very good location for the skate park; the park is large, it will be
129 away from homes and the residents will not be disturbed, the proposed location is visibly
130 open from Maple St. and other places in the Park. There are trees near the proposed
131 location which is a good place for skaters as well as their parents to rest.

132

133 The path that goes across the proposed location may be able to go around the Park or
134 above the Park. The Skate Park may add amusement for those who walk along this path.
135 There are always bystanders who take an interest and watch the skaters.

136

137 Ann Arbor skate boarders deserve to have a Skate Park and Veteran's Memorial Park is the
138 right location.

139

140 **Kevin Devine** spoke in support of the skate park, also explaining he has a son who is
141 involved in skate boarding and would be a supporter. The proposed location is a wonderful
142 idea and would be a good service to our residents and our children to have this facility.

143

144 **Larry Deck** spoke and represents the Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition and has
145 been involved with non motorized transportation in the County and in the City.

146

147 There is a list of 16 priorities Countywide; two of those projects are in City Parks. One is
148 finishing the trail between Broadway and The Argo Dam, the other project is the tunnel
149 under the railroad between Barton Park and Bandemer Park on the north side.

150

151 The tunnel project is a safety issue at the crossing and is a key facility that links the northern
152 City Parks to the central City Parks.

153 It is also part of the City's non motorized plan.

154

155 The tunnel project will be expensive to complete, but there should be funding available from
156 a number of agencies. To obtain funding from these agencies we need to have control of
157 land.

158

159 To control the land we need railroad approval of the tunnel. To have this we need an
160 engineering design of the tunnel. To have this we need City Council's approval to proceed
161 with the engineering design of the tunnel.

162

163 The request is to ask The Park Advisory Commission to recommend this issue be brought to
164 City Council for action and discussion.

165

166 **L. Berauer** asked if Larry Deck could send the list of the projects to the Commissioners via
167 email.

168

169 **Glenn Thompson** spoke on the Skate Park; stating only 2 locations were suggested by the
170 Park Planning staff at the recent neighborhood meeting. Veteran's Memorial Park was
171 preferred by the Skate Park Committee and feels this is a very undesirable location from an
172 environmental stand point with the possibility of flooding at the Allen Creek.

173

174 The proposed Skate Park is estimated to be 30,000 square feet of impervious area; this is
175 an area equal to the rooftops of 30 – 50 homes. We should not be adding this impervious
176 area to one of the few green surfaces of the water shed, these areas should be used to
177 retain water to reduce flood damage.

178

179 Mr. Dehring has stated this project will meet the storm water requirements, meeting the
180 environmental standards of the Bush Administration is not the standard Ann Arbor should
181 accept. For example, the City recently awarded a contract to demolish a home due to this
182 risk of flood damage. It simply does not make sense that the City would demolish a home
183 due to flood risk and then construct a project less than a mile from this home that
184 exacerbates flood danger.

185

186 There are areas where a Skate Park could be constructed that would actually improve storm
187 water management, meet the goals of the Skate Park Committee and that would be more
188 likely to qualify for grant funding, for example, the non motorized transportation grants. It
189 may be harder to implement and harder to design, but this idea should be taken into
190 consideration rather than accepting the Veteran's Park location without considering the
191 environmental problems.

192

193 **A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

194

195 **A-1 Commissioner Offen** moved, supported by **Commissioner Rosencrans** to
196 approve the minutes of the March 18, 2008 meeting as written. The minutes of
197 March 18, 2008 were approved unanimously as written.

198

199 **Commissioner Berauer** commented on the minutes from the March 18, 2008
200 meeting were very extensive.

201

202

203

204 **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

205
206 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

207
208 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

209
210 **B-1 Park Security Discussion and Recommendations**

211
212 **Deputy Chief Bazick** explained the increased Police patrols in the Parks. He stated he
213 and Gwen Nystuen met regarding this issue and passed reports to the Commission.

214
215 Deputy Chief Bazick stated this explanation is a follow up for the Commission and the
216 extension of the first visual graph and also passed this graph to the Commission (call
217 for service activity) that was shown to the Commission previously. There are 3 pages
218 that show by fiscal year, by hour of the day and the call for service activity in the Parks.
219 This report indicates all of the Parks but can be modified by each Park. Deputy Chief
220 Bazick explained each sheet to the Commission, also stating there is more activity in
221 the Parks in the summer months, with activity declining in the winter months.

222
223 A database was created to take the officers day sheets and enter all of the information
224 into the database regarding the self initiated activity for the Officer's in the Parks as a
225 whole hour by hour based on what the Officer's logged in. This report can also be
226 modified by categories upon the request of the Commission.

227
228 **L. Berauer** stated this report is very helpful.

229
230 **S. Offen** asked if it would be possible to annualize the 2007 data.

231
232 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated the report is based upon fiscal year, and would be July
233 2006 – July 2007.

234
235 **S. Offen** asked if there is a way to approximate what the numbers were at the first of
236 the year.

237
238 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated yes.

239
240 **S. Offen** asked if there was anecdotal explanation for why there are spikes in hours for
241 2005, then were reduced for the remaining years.

242
243 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated he would review the report in that time frame, and look at
244 the service account worked. There is a possibility there was an increase in traffic stops
245 in the area that was coded towards one of the Parks in the area.

246
247 **G. Nystuen** stated a recommendation needs to be made to continue our current
248 operation for this coming year. When the Commission has the full report by the end of
249 July 2008, a permanent recommendation can be made in coordination.

250
251 It would also be good to work with the Adopt-A-Park as well as the park stewards. One
252 of the advantages this last year has been the coordination of bringing together
253 information between the Parks and Police. So far there have not been any serious
254 difficulties.

255 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated the Commission requested information regarding any
256 detriment to other operations within in the City due to the patrolling of the Parks.
257

258 Deputy Chief Bazick stated there has not been any documentation to indicate this is
259 affecting other services.
260

261 **L. Berauer** asked if accomplishing the Park patrol caused the Police Department to
262 have any deficiencies in other areas.
263

264 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated no, there were not any deficiencies in other areas. The
265 free patrol time was redirected and nothing else was harmed with these efforts. This is
266 patrol time that is not tied up for a response to a call for service or for a call that you
267 schedule in advance.
268

269 **L. Berauer** stated she was glad to hear this because there was a concern with that
270 particular issue.
271

272 **J. Lawter** asked Deputy Chief Bazick to explain the terminology “calls for service”.
273

274 **Deputy Chief Bazick** explained a “call for service” would be is someone called “911” to
275 report an incident and a unit and/or a Police Officer responded to the location.
276

277 **J. Lawter** stated it appears calls have dropped in 2008.
278

279 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated new data is being collected with the new system. Also
280 stating data will be collected to determine if what is represented in the report is data
281 from Police Officer’s being on duty or if it represented by Community Standards.
282

283 **G. Nystuen** stated at the time of the previous report there were many Community
284 Standards employees.
285

286 **L. Berauer** stated emails have been received regarding dogs off leash, and wanted to
287 ask if there were any comments on recent experiences with this issue.
288

289 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated he has not focused on this issue to make an analysis on
290 it.
291

292 **L. Berauer** stated there was an email pertaining to Bird Hills regarding dogs being off
293 leash.
294

295 **Deputy Chief Bazick** asked if anything has been posted regarding options for the
296 dogs.
297

298 **Colin Smith** stated there is no signage at this time, but signs can be placed at the
299 Kiosk at Bird Hills Park and other Parks as well.
300

301 **Deputy Chief Bazick** stated if there was literature to hand out to the citizen’s that
302 would be another way for staff to interact with the public in an informative manner.
303
304

305 **L. Berauer** stated NAP was in possession of literature regarding proper etiquette
306 pertaining to dogs in the Parks, also suggesting employees in Community Standards
307 and Police Officer's could pass out information containing the locations of the Dog
308 Parks.

309
310 **Colin Smith** stated he spoke with Deputy Chief Seto and he suggested not only a
311 warning to the public regarding off leash dogs but having a brochure stating the options
312 of the Dog Park.

313
314 **T. Berla** expressed concern that citizen's may not realize they are actually breaking the
315 rules.

316
317 **S. Offen** stated yes, people do realize they are not following the rules and that he has
318 mentioned to citizens, with responses being yes they are aware.

319
320 **S. Offen** asked if the reports could be grouped into the types of Parks we are speaking
321 of, as in neighborhood parks or community Parks.

322 **B-2** Athletic Field Task Force Report and Recommendations

323
324
325 **L. Berauer** complimented the Task Force on the hard work with addressing the issues
326 that the public as well as the Commission are concerned about regarding the fields.

327
328 **D. Barrett** spoke on the field conditions explaining the progress to the Commission.

329
330 Information was passed to the Commission. D. Barrett stated he walked around each
331 field in Ann Arbor to better address the field conditions. The soccer fields and active
332 sports fields are not well maintained. There is a distinction among the soccer fields and
333 how they are used. There are the primary fields which at this point would be Fuller Park
334 (there are 8 fields there) and Olson Park. The secondary fields are Virginia Park and
335 West Park, and other neighborhood Parks.

336
337 Approximately two years ago an attempt to repair Olson Park was made, there were
338 problems with the builder and this project was not completed.

339
340 The irrigation system at Fuller Park was in need of repair, funds were not allocated for
341 this repair. The field was over used and is now in the current state.

342
343 Recreation & Education uses a combination of school fields and the secondary
344 neighborhood fields. The house leagues have higher level skills, do not travel and
345 basically play in Ann Arbor. The third level is the club and the travel teams. There are
346 thousands of children participating in these levels. The travel teams and the club teams
347 of which examples are the Arsenal, United, USA and Soccer Blast travel around the
348 state with Ann Arbor being the home area. Most of the club teams have migrated out of
349 the City to Concordia College or privately owned areas to practice where they rent time
350 and space.

351
352 The use of Fuller Park is down due to injuries to the children playing on the fields which
353 are caused by the conditions of the fields.

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355 There is major work to do on the fields, the positive news is the City has come to the
356 same conclusion and there is a genuine understanding of the problem.

357
358 There are 6 items for the Commission to be aware of and to remain focused on:

359
360 The fields are not well maintained, the second issue is quality which is related to
361 quantity because they are over used because there is not enough quantity. We need to
362 make sure that we start with the idea of what quality would be.

363
364 The City has a responsibility to provide recreational facilities when no other
365 organization public or private will, there is a possibility that no other organization will
366 meet the needs of a high quality fields.

367
368 Fuller and Olson Fields are a very good place to start repairing, in addition the City has
369 made a commitment to focus on the secondary field's that the Recreation and
370 Education teams will be playing on, this will take time to fertilize and aerate.

371
372 The Fields need to be renovated at a high level quality; a plan implemented to maintain
373 this level of quality, the ongoing maintenance plan will evolve as we learn more
374 especially since we have not maintained the fields at this level.

375
376 The goal is to establish this amenity into the future, so we need to put in place ongoing
377 systems. This will include ongoing regular maintenance, control of access, preventing
378 over usage and allocating fields among competing organizations. When the fields are
379 improved this will be a challenge.

380
381 Establishing policies, reservation rates, weather cancellations, measurement of field
382 quality on an ongoing basis, accounting for field cost and rental revenue. These are
383 areas to work on.

384
385 **S. Offen** stated the speakers attending the meeting mentioned the quality of fields in
386 neighboring communities and that they were superior to the quality of the fields in Ann
387 Arbor. S. Offen asked if those fields mentioned have been visited, how the qualities of
388 those fields are maintained and if there are fields we could use as a model for our own
389 fields.

390
391 **D. Barrett** stated due to coaching on the travel teams, these fields have been visited.
392 There are a number of business scenarios that make this possible some are privately
393 owned others are City owned. They go into business with private organizations to
394 maintain the fields.

395
396 To hold soccer tournaments generates money, causing this to be in their best interest
397 to maintain the fields so they can have tournaments. There has not been a tournament
398 in Ann Arbor for many years for this reason.

399
400 **L. Berauer** stated most of the public feels using the partnership with a private entity will
401 work well.

402
403 **J. Lawter** stated if the infrastructure is in place there is a possibility that uncontrolled
404 play on the field will cause the field not to be able to rest and rotate. One muddy day
405 could cause the field to be destroyed.

406 Although we want tournament level fields, that may not be possible on all fields. It
407 would be nice to have some percentages that are of good quality and tournament level
408 fields.

409
410 To be able to accomplish this goal there will have to be fences placed at the fields and
411 rules for the usage of the fields.

412
413 **G. Nystuen** asked how the plans for the fields will fit with this year's budget, as well as
414 the timeline to reach these goals.

415
416 **D. Barrett** explained the budget aspect will be explained in Jayne Miller's presentation
417 at today's meeting. The timeline would be approximately 2-3 years to get fields in order.

418
419 **S. Rosencrans** asked if there is a specific list of criteria that is used pertaining to good
420 or bad fields.

421
422 **D. Barrett** stated yes and he would be happy to explain.

423
424 **L. Berauer** asked if D. Barrett had an opinion regarding grass versus artificial turf on
425 the fields.

426
427 **D. Barrett** stated in a perfect world it would be better to play on grass.

428
429 **T. Berla** suggested the possibility of someone from Park Operations being able to go to
430 the fields and write down the field quality measurements. Also stating it would be a
431 good idea to have artificial turf fields with lights.

432
433 One artificial turf field can cost in excess of one million dollars.

434
435 **Jayne Miller** presented a Power Point presentation to the Commission and explained
436 that the presentation would include an overview of the sport's fields in the area, the
437 field user groups in the area will be indentified, an overview of the current field
438 reservation practices and revenues, current maintenance practices as well as provide
439 recommendations for future maintenance practices, policy development and field
440 reservations.

441
442 ***There was an extensive Power Point Presentation presented to the Commission,***

443
444 ***Jayne Miller explained each slide to the Commission in detail.***

445
446 **S. Offen** asked J. Miller what year was the data from that was presented to the
447 Commission.

448
449 **Jayne Miller** stated the data is current and also stated the Commission has hard
450 copies of the Power Point Presentation.

451
452 **Jayne Miller** expressed the usage at the Fuller Field not being controlled; due to this
453 the conditions of the fields have deteriorated and the summer camps no longer use the
454 fields.

457 **S. Offen** asked why there were fewer hours with the summer usage than in the spring.

458
459 **Jayne Miller** explained the clubs are going elsewhere due to the conditions of the
460 fields, and we have fields that are rested more in the summer than in the spring.

461
462 **T. Berla** stated this could be due to summer being considered only 2 months and the
463 spring is considered 3 months.

464
465 **S. Kunselman** stated the irrigation system at Fuller Field is a major issue compared to
466 the fields in the surrounding communities.

467
468 **Matt Warba** explained a new irrigation system was put in Fuller Field last spring along
469 with a new pump and lowered the level of the intake pipe within the stream. To move
470 forward with the fields this is a key component.

471
472 **J. Lawter** asked which three fields have fees.

473
474 **Jayne Miller** stated fees are at Olson and Fuller Fields. Fees should be charged at all
475 of the Fields but the question is what the tier and fee structures consist of. The Airport
476 Field's are used and they are City Fields. We do not receive revenue from that Field
477 and are not aware of where the revenue is actually going.

478
479 **D. Barrett** explained there are four Fields at the Airport they are not like neighborhood
480 fields, they are closer in likeness to Fuller Field.

481
482 **S. Offen** asked who maintained the soccer fields.

483
484 **Jayne Miller** stated Parks Operations.

485
486 **L. Berauer** asked if the data regarding reservations has been difficult to obtain from
487 Recreation and Education.

488
489 **Jayne Miller** stated this has been a difficult situation due to Recreation and Education
490 wanting to abide by a 1976 agreement and is an issue that is being discussed.

491
492 **T. Berla** stated he has mentioned to Sara Acshbach and the Recreation Advisory
493 Commission regarding a presentation to the Park Advisory Commission regarding the
494 policy with the City.

495
496 **L. Berauer** stated this issue should be placed on the agenda to discuss and possibly
497 have both the Park Advisory Commission and the Recreation Advisory Commission
498 meet.

499
500 **D. Barrett** expressed thanks to staff regarding a job well done with this situation.

501 **B-3** Golf Task Force Report

502
503
504 PAC Recommendation

505
506

507 **Jayne Miller** explained and passed a packet to the Commission regarding the Golf
508 Course Report. The packet included the Marketing Plan for the Golf Course, sample
509 materials and the Golf Course Recommendations, the Park Advisory
510 Recommendations from the January 15, 2008 meeting minutes.

511
512 Also included in the packet:

513
514 The City's cost per visitor per recreation facility, the millage funds that have been
515 expended at each facility, the millage fact sheet along with questions and answers
516 when we were promoting the existing millage.

517
518 Jayne Miller walked the Commission through the immediate changes which included
519 the fact that Matt Warba leaving the Golf Courses, with Matt Warba's move it presented
520 challenges and opportunities that allowed staff changes. Cheryl Saam who was at the
521 Canoe Liveries, prior to being there was at the Leslie Science Center will be moving to
522 Leslie Park Golf Course and Jason Nealis will be moving to Huron Hills Golf Course.
523 Those changes were specifically done to due to their experience. Cheryl Saam has
524 totally revamped the Canoe Livery operations from business, customer service and
525 financial aspects.

526
527 The fee structure recommended that was approved by City Council was implemented.
528 The staffing levels have been increased; the tee-time reservation systems (integrated
529 and Point of Sale) have been implemented and will provide a great deal of information
530 regarding our customers so that target marketing can be done.

531
532 Between both Golf Courses approximately \$30,000.00 will be spent on marketing this
533 season.

534
535 The process has begun to obtain a liquor license from the State of Michigan. City
536 Council awarded the license to Leslie Park in March. The state will inspect the property
537 and this could take 4 – 6 months to complete this process. Until this process is
538 complete, alcohol cannot be sold at the facility.

539
540 There have been enhancements to improve the operations. A huge emphasis has been
541 put towards customer service with our staff as well as hiring practices. Enhancements
542 are also being made with the food and beverage operations at both Golf Courses. All of
543 these changes are being made within the Fiscal Year budget.

544
545 The Golf Courses are always budgeted with the intent of a good year. If it is not a good
546 year due to weather or other circumstances the Managers are aware to operate on
547 what is budgeted, meaning if the revenue is down to operate on this budget, and
548 cutting expenses as needed.

549
550 We have 4 different scenarios of recommendations regarding a 3 -5 year investment for
551 the Golf Courses. Jayne Miller explained in detail the information included in the packet
552 passed to the Commission.

553
554 The big difference between the Park Advisory Commissions, two staff, and the Golf
555 Task Force recommendations was the irrigation system at Huron Hills which was a
556 \$425,000.00 cost and was not included in all the recommendations.

557

558 **D. Barrett** asked if the irrigation system would be replaced at a cost of \$425,000.00.

559
560 **Jayne Miller** stated this is a recommendation to City Council and it is not included in
561 the proposed budget. City Council has the information and this cost may be included in
562 the budget.

563
564 **S. Offen** asked how much the irrigation system cost and how long it would take to
565 replace the system.

566
567 **Jayne Miller** stated the materials would be ready for bid and would take 2 –3 months.

568
569 **S. Offen** asked if we waited until spring what would be the earliest the system would be
570 installed.

571
572 **Jayne Miller** stated the recommendation would be to start the process of repairing the
573 irrigation system in the fall and close the Golf Course early.

574
575 **Colin Smith** stated the work could be completed in the fall of the 2010 golf season if
576 approved.

577
578 **T. Berla** stated the work would be completed in the 2011 season.

579
580 **B. Macomber** asked if the replacement of the irrigation system is included in the
581 \$778,000.00 that staff is proposing come out of the capital.

582
583 **Jayne Miller** stated no, it is not.

584
585 **B. Macomber** stated the City's capital plan already has the approximately \$250,000.00
586 going to the golf courses from the capital millage and asked if this includes the
587 \$778,000.00.

588
589 **B. Macomber** stated this information can be seen on the Parks and Recreation page on
590 located on the City's web site

591
592 **Colin Smith** stated he was not aware of this information being on the web site.

593
594 **S. Offen** stated the information regarding \$250,000.00 that B. Macomber is referring to
595 is in the Fiscal 2012 budget.

596
597 **B. Macomber** stated the current maintenance capital millage is for the length of 6
598 years, allocating 20% of that revenue each year for the 2007 – 2008 and the 2008 –
599 2009 budgets, which is approximately \$1,000,000.00 per year. For the next six-year time
600 span, if we continue using the 80/20 percent ratio there will only be \$6,000,000.00 to
601 work with.

602
603 Looking at the proposal for the golf courses, without the installation of the irrigation
604 system there will be a large portion of money spent.

605
606 **Jayne Miller** stated \$778,000.00 was identified out of the capital portion of the new
607 millage to utilize for the Golf Courses. There are projects out of (Fund 18) the old capital
608 millage and the new millage.

609 This current year and next year was discussed and this is a significant issue that this
610 body should comment on and send to City Council before the budget is decided on.

611
612 **L. Berauer** stated the Park Advisory Commission did not propose using any of the
613 capital money.

614
615 **Jayne Miller** explained projects that were cut and placed on hold are included in the
616 packet passed to the Commission.

617
618 **Jayne Miller** explained that the notes in the packet are referring to the \$250,000.00 that
619 was proposed as part of Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 budget for Park Security.

620
621 One of the recommendations was to use \$230,000.00 of the \$250,000.00 for this Fiscal
622 Year for Golf Course improvements.

623
624 For Fiscal Year 2009 use \$180,000.00 of the \$250,000.00 for Golf Course
625 improvements.

626
627 On the second page, \$200,000.00 of the capital money has been identified as well as
628 another \$150,000.00 from Capital projects relating to trail and pathway repairs.

629
630 **B. Macomber** stated at the previous Park Advisory Commission it was stated that there
631 was not any Park Security money coming out of the millage in the 2008 – 2009 budget.

632
633 **Jayne Miller** stated there is not any money coming out, it is the money that was
634 budgeted that City Council did not approve and is in a contingency fund.

635
636 **B. Macomber** stated if the six year millage remains at the 80/20 ratio, we are looking at
637 \$6,000,000.00 over the course of six years and the \$778,000.00 without the irrigation
638 system it will take a large portion of the six year millage.

639
640 The list states new soccer development is being cut, trail and greenway development is
641 being cut which is behind particularly in the trails. If new land were found for the soccer
642 fields that would be a Land Acquisition millage which is a separate millage.

643
644 **Jayne Miller** suggested the Park Advisory Commission provide information to Council
645 regarding the recommendations and the source of funds.

646
647 **L. Berauer** asked Jayne Miller was comfortable cutting the capital projects.

648
649 **Jayne Miller** stated these are very difficult decisions City Council will make as to where
650 approximately \$3,000,000.00 will come from. Whether or not the investments will be
651 made to the Golf Courses immediately and what will be the long-term implications for
652 City Council if the investment is made today for next Fiscal Year.

653
654 Every year thereafter, after 5 years there will be an additional \$1,000,000.00 at a
655 minimum that City Council must decide on.

656
657 T. Berla stated the six year forecast seems to show a \$2,000,000.00 operating transfer
658 from the General Fund.

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660 Also, over the next six years we will subsidize the golf courses in the amount of
661 \$3,000,000.00 and at the end of that period of time we will still have to subsidize
662 approximately \$5.00 per round at Leslie Park, \$9.00 a round at Huron Hills assuming
663 this scenario.

664
665 **L. Berauer** suggested the Park Advisory Commission hold a special work session to
666 discuss the materials passed to the Commission today to agree on a final
667 recommendation to City Council regarding golf.

668
669 **S. Rosencrans** stated a special meeting is a good idea and a special meeting is
670 certainly is in order.

671
672 **J. Grand** stated this issue would be brought up with the Golf Task Force prior to the
673 next City Council meeting.

674
675 **B-4** Staff Report on Skate Park Public Meeting

676
677 **Jeff Dehring** stated the public meeting was held on April 2, 2008 with approximately 75
678 people in attendance. The dialogue consisted of the community expressing their opinion
679 on the location of the Skate Park being at Veteran's Memorial Park.

680
681 There were concerns about trees being cut down, the trees will not be affected.

682
683 Larry Dishman was in attendance. The parking issue was discussed. Larry Dishman
684 stated with the decrease in programs the parking may not be an issue.

685
686 There are concerns regarding the Allen Creek Watershed and water run off.

687
688 The Skate Park Action Committee is well aware of this concern and knows this is an
689 issue they will have to build into their design to mitigate.

690
691 **L. Berauer** asked if there was a PAC representative at the public meeting.

692
693 **S. Rosencrans** stated yes, he was in attendance at the meeting.

694
695 **Jeff Dehring** suggested there be a public hearing on the May agenda for the community
696 to speak on the Skate Park.

697
698 **L. Berauer** asked if there were other locations throughout the City considered for the
699 Skate Park.

700
701 **Jeff Dehring** stated yes, Southeast Area Park and Buhr Park.

702
703 **S. Rosencrans** stated he learned how safe skate boarding is compared to other sports.
704 He also walked around the area that is being discussed and there is ample room at the
705 proposed location.

706
707 **L. Berauer** asked if a detailed report could be prepared for the May meeting and explain
708 the mitigation regarding the storm water.

709
710

711 **Jeff Dehring** stated the plans are not at this level of detail at this time.

712
713 **Colin Smith** stated this would be a very hard question to answer with any certainty until
714 a designer is hired.

715
716 **S. Kunselman** asked if the Commission would be able to make a recommendation in
717 May or June and if there is a time frame.

718
719 **Jeff Dehring** would like to make a recommendation after the public meeting in May.

720
721 **L. Berauer** stated the Commission is aware there cannot be any fundraising until there
722 is a location decided upon.

723
724 **S. Rosencrans** suggested the Commission walk through the proposed area and stated
725 it would help to see the proposed location.

726
727 **B-5** Dog Park Update

728
729 **Jeff Dehring** stated the Dog Park is a huge success. The weather conditions and use
730 have created mud conditions. The Park will be closed May 12 -21 to install gravel and to
731 address the mud situation.

732
733 There will be improvements to the parking lot and re-grade the driveway in order to
734 facilitate that work the Park will close temporarily, a close for maintenance sign will be
735 posted to give information to the users.

736
737 This information will be also be posted by newspaper releases and there will be
738 notifications on the web site. Olson Park will be the only option to take the dogs until the
739 maintenance is completed.

740
741 The County is facilitating and paying for this work.

742
743 **Jeff Dehring** stated a temporary fence is being considered to segregate the area so the
744 turf can establish.

745
746 ***L. Berauer stated that due to time restraints, the last two items (B-6 and B-7) on***
747 ***the agenda will be discussed at the special meeting that the public will be able to***
748 ***attend.***

749
750 **B-6** Review Budget Forecast Report and additional General Fund Allocations

751
752 **B-7** 2008 – 09 Budget

753
754
755 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

756
757
758 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

762 E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

763
764

765 F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

766
767

768 G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

769
770

771 H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK
772 FORCES

773
774

775 I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL (3 Minutes per Speaker)

776
777

Glenn Thompson commented on the storm water situation and stated the development of the Skate Park would possibly double the problem.

778
779

Trevor Staples representing the Skate Park Action Committee stated the committee is looking at Federal Grants that give money to projects that deal with irrigation and water retention.

780
781
782
783

784 J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH LAND ACQUISITION ISSUES (If Applicable)

785
786

787 K - TRANSMITTALS

788
789

K-1 City Council Items Update

790
791

K-2 Park Project Update

792
793

K-3 PAC Work Session Summary

794
795

K-4 Parks and Recreation Events for January – February 2008

796
797

K-5 Parks Advisory Commission 2008 Meeting Schedule

798
799

There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Berauer** moved that the meeting be adjourned. The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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ANN ARBOR SKATEPARK STRATEGIC PLAN

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Financial Plan..... Page 12

Appendices

- A. Steering Committee Profiles**
- B. Cash Flow Forecast/Timeline**
- C. Endorsements/Community Support**

MISSION STATEMENT

To build a free, public, concrete skatepark as a permanent resource for residents in the Ann Arbor area. The skatepark will be designed and built by an experienced skatepark contractor and include local skaters in the design process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The need for a permanent skatepark in Ann Arbor has been evident for decades. Ann Arbor has a rich history involving skateboarding, with the city hosting two temporary skateboarding facilities and numerous skate shops. Within the past ten years, dozens of communities in Michigan and thousands across the country have seen the importance of building permanent skateparks as a way for members of the community to get exercise, stay healthy, have fun, and socialize in a safe, positive atmosphere. Without a successful, permanent skatepark in the city, Ann Arbor itself has effectively become a skatepark, with 868 on-campus violations of the University's Skateboarding, Roller Blades, and Roller Skates ordinance cited by the Department of Public Safety in the years 2000 - 2004.

In the spring of 2005, Dug Song began to organize the community in an effort to get a permanent skatepark built in Ann Arbor. In spring 2007, Trevor Staples jumped on board. Their efforts have solidified into a strong community-based initiative which is working to make the positive dream of a free, public, permanent skatepark in Ann Arbor a reality.

This draft Strategic Plan outlines the overall scope of the Ann Arbor Skatepark project, provides site selection procedures, explains how the Skatepark will be designed, built, managed and paid for and includes a fundraising plan and a financial plan/timetable. It should be assumed that some details will change as the effort advances.

The Ann Arbor Skatepark will feature a 30,000 square foot state-of-the-art concrete skatepark that includes "street" elements (flat surfaces, stairs, rails) and "transitional" elements (bowls, curved surfaces, half pipes) as well as lighting, seating and picnic areas. The park will be built and maintained in an environmentally progressive way. Visually, it will compliment the landscape and incorporate public art. It will reflect Ann Arbor's commitment to safe and beautiful public parks for the entire community to enjoy.

Ann Arbor and other communities have learned through experience that when skaters are not involved in skatepark efforts, they often fail. It is the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee's strong position that skaters be involved in every stage of the skatepark project.

A2SKATEPARK INITIATIVE

The A2Skatepark Action Committee is a coalition of parent, skaters, business and community leaders dedicated to the development of a public skatepark in Ann Arbor. The Steering Committee was formed in October 2007 to guide the effort and coordinate advocacy, public relations, fundraising, site selection and design.

The following is a history of the effort thus far:

- May 13, 2008 – Presentation to Ann Arbor Public Art Commission
- May 1, 2008 – Letters of endorsement received so far: AAACF Youth Council; Neutral Zone Teen Advisory Council; Mike Fitzsimmons, YMCA VP Operations; Andy MacDonald, Champion skater & Ann Arbor native, Community Action Network
- April 30, 2008 – Online and written petitions reach 1,000 signatures
- April 28, 2008 – Presentation to AAACF Youth Council
- April 15, 2008 – Citizens address PAC in support of Veterans Memorial Park location
- April 2, 2008 – 70+ citizens attend Public Meeting on proposed Veterans Memorial Park location. Overwhelming majority in support of site.
- March 16, 2008 – “City deserves a skateboard park” printed in The Ann Arbor News’ Other Voices
- March 7, 2008 – Meeting with the Washtenaw Youth Development Initiative
- March 1, 2008 - First Ann Arbor Skatepark piece printed in The Ann Arbor Observer
- February 26, 2008 – 2nd Meeting with AAACF regarding fiscal sponsorship
- February 23, 2008 - Third benefit concert for the Ann Arbor Skatepark
- February 17, 2008 - Trevor’s interview on Ann Arbor’s 107.1 FM airs
- February 8, 2008 - Second benefit concert for the Ann Arbor Skatepark
- February 2, 2008 - First Street Team event at Launch Board Shop
- January 22, 2008 - WCBN interview with Trevor and Dug
- January 12, 2008 - Steering committee meeting
- January 11, 2008 - First benefit concert at the Blind Pig
- January 8, 2008 - Public meeting at Scarlett Middle School
- January 4, 2008 - a2skatepark mixer at ABC
- December 18, 2007 - Second presentation to PAC
- December 15, 2007 - Second steering committee meeting

- December 11, 2007 - Sixth public meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee, 1st Meeting with Cheryl Elliott, President & CEO of Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
- December 8, 2007 - Raw Haüs (715 Miller) Deneke Foundation concert
- November 22, 2007 - [Trevor's Thanksgiving Teeter Talk interview!](#)
- November 1, 2007 - Online petition reaches 500 signatures
- October 28, 2007 - Fifth meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- October 25, 2007 - Second meeting with PAC Staff
- October 20, 2007 - Steering Committee meets for 1st time
- October 11, 2007 - Interview with James E. Leonard, from the [Ann Arbor Observer](#)
- October 11, 2007 - Online petition passes 400 signatures
- October 11, 2007 - Second series of stickers: "dream it, build it, skate it"
- September 23, 2007 - Online petition goes live
- September 23, 2007 - 4th meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- August 21, 2007 - First Presentation to PAC
- August 20, 2007 - First batch of skatepark shirts printed
- August 15, 2007 - City Council Member Steve Kunselman appears on CTN's Ward Talk, spreading the word about the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- August 12, 2007 - CTN starts playing Michigan Skatepark Sampler DVD
- August 4, 2007 - Third Meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- July 18, 2007 - First meeting with PAC Staff
- July 17, 2007 - Michigan Skatepark Sampler DVD
- July 11, 2007 - First series of stickers: "I Support the Ann Arbor Skatepark"
- July 11, 2007 - Second meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- June 27, 2007 - First general meeting of the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee
- November 19, 2005 - Dug has a baby, goes underground
- August 25, 2005 - a2skatepark.org goes online
- July 19, 2005 - Dug presents to PROS public hearing

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Description

The Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee aims to build a high-quality, state of the art, world class concrete skatepark that is free for all participants. The skatepark will be situated in close proximity to other sports facilities and integrated into an established public park. The skatepark will be one part of the larger facility that can attract people pursuing a variety of activities. By creating a highly visible skatepark that attracts skaters from across the state and from across the country, the skatepark will be a facility of which the whole city can be proud.

In order to build a durable, high-quality skatepark, it will be designed and constructed by professional skatepark design and construction specialists. The Committee, in conjunction with the City, will make the selection based in part on the contractor's experience, the quality of previous projects, its commitment to environmental responsibility and the ability to incorporate public art in the design.

The Skatepark Experience

Skateboarding is a fun and varied sport practiced by a wide range of individuals, ranging from young children to teenagers and young adults to men and women well into their forties and fifties. It is a challenging and creative activity that creates a strong sense of identity and community between its practitioners. Skateparks, especially public skateparks, have long been centers for the congregation of skaterboarders and their supporters. Since the late 1990's skateboarding has become increasingly popular and many municipalities around the country have built free, public skateparks to address the needs of this growing segment of the population. In fact, it is nearly assumed that cities of a certain size will have a skatepark.

In order to meet the needs of as many skaters as possible, the Ann Arbor Skatepark will include a variety of terrain built in concrete, ranging from street-type obstacles such as pyramids and stairs with handrails, to small bowls to large bowls with vert and pool coping. By including a variety of terrain, the park will be usable by skaters at all skill levels, from beginners to seasoned veterans. Additionally, including varied obstacles ensures the park will remain flexible as skateboarding styles and trends evolve over its lifespan.

Commitment to Environmental Responsibility

The Committee aims to include as many environmentally responsible technologies as possible, including solar powered lights. Responsible storm water and flood plain management strategies will be incorporated into the design plan. The plan preserves as many trees as possible and will integrate green space landscaping in the design. Landscaping will incorporate drought resistant species of trees and low maintenance ground covers.

Who Benefits?

- Users of the skatepark will be skaters of all ages and skill levels, however, the park environment will be something all members of the community will enjoy and visit.
- The community will enjoy an enhanced appearance and new recreational opportunity.
- Youth will have a safe and social place to be active and creative.
- Tourists will have another reason to visit the Ann Arbor Area
- Businesses will benefit directly from the sale of equipment, clothing, food and beverage and indirectly from the business generated by visitors to our community.

The community as a whole will benefit. We envision a beautiful park setting with interesting design, public art and landscaping elements that the entire community will consider an asset. Youth will experience a sense of ownership and belonging while enjoying a safe, easily accessible place to be physically active while interacting with park users of all ages. Skaters in the Ann Arbor area will not have to travel to another town to participate in their sport legally. Families looking for an attraction for children will have another recreational facility. Businesses will benefit from increased sales and visibility. Overall, the community benefits socially from this youth-driven contribution to the community.

Risk & Implications

The skatepark will be located and designed with high visibility reducing misuse and risk to the users. It is recognized that risk is inherent in any physical activity and this skatepark is intended to challenge users and provide an outlet for creative expression. The possibility of injuries is understood.

With this in mind, operating guidelines and rules for use will be developed based on the experience of other municipalities.

SITE SELECTION

The first step in building a skatepark is determining the appropriate location. Many factors are considered when choosing a site. The following is a list of siting criteria the Skatepark Action Committee used in determining that Veteran's Memorial Park is an ideal location:

Access

Skateparks should be accessible to the broader community. A remote skatepark will only attract those people who have the means to reach it. The skatepark should be placed in an area that is easy to get to and find.

- Is the site convenient to public transit?
- Do people know where the site is? Can its location be easily described?
- Is there existing parking for park users or their parents?
- Can you see what's going on in the space from a distance
- Is the site within walking distance of the target user?

Comfort

Often overlooked, comfort is a way of expressing that the users are an important and valued part of the community. A comfortable environment allows people to set proper expectations about the area, use the area in a way that is natural and intended, and ultimately take pride in this "third place." For many skaters, the skatepark will become the central gathering point for years. An uncomfortable space will feel unsafe and attract the wrong element.

- Are there public health and comfort amenities available nearby?
- Is there shade, water, seating and restrooms nearby?
- Is the site clean and comfortable?
- Is the site within a reasonable distance to a pay phone or market?

Activity

The surrounding skatepark area should be active with other users. This diversity keeps the environment interesting and vibrant; without it, the space will feel "overrun" and homogenous...a place for "skaters only."

- Is the site active with a diversity of uses?
- Are the other activities compatible with the athleticism of skateboarding?
- Is athletic activity at the site desired?

Sociability

Skateboarders are generally passionate and committed individuals. Like most people, skaters would rather recreate with others than alone. Non-skaters who happen to be nearby can add to the overall sense of community inclusion at the skatepark; the facility should be designed for lots of community mixing.

- Is the site adjacent to other social uses?
- Will skaters feel inclusive and not partitioned away?
- Does the site allow for passive supervision?

OPERATING THE SKATEPARK

The Ann Arbor Skatepark will be located on property that is owned and maintained by the City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services Unit (Parks and Rec).

It is proposed that the Ann Arbor Skatepark be managed and maintained by the City of Ann Arbor, Parks and Recreation Services Unit and the Parks Advisory Commission with assistance from the “Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark”, a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organization. The Friends group will include skaters, supporters, parents and interested community members as well as representatives from Parks & Rec, Veterans Memorial Park, among others.

Friends of the Ann Arbor Skatepark (FAAS) will apply for and gain 501(c)(3) tax exempt status by January 2010. FAAS will establish operational guidelines to be implemented upon completion of the Skatepark. In addition, FAAS will coordinate stewardship programs, plan activities and events and raise money in support of the Skatepark. An endowed designated fund will be established at the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation to support maintenance and/or improvements to the park. Grants from the fund will be paid annually to the Friends of A2skatepark who will decide the best use of the funds.

Operational Guidelines will cover the following areas:

1. Permitted uses
2. Rules of use
3. Hours of operation
4. Supervision
5. Safety
6. Maintenance
7. Facility Programming and revenue generating activities
8. Other applicable topics that may arise

FUNDRAISING PLAN

The Fundraising phase of the skatepark project will go from June 2008 through June 2010 (or until the park is fully funded) and will include several components:

1. Grants
2. Corporate and Private Donations
3. Service Clubs and Community Organizations
4. Sponsorship Opportunities
5. Fundraising Events & Activities
6. In-kind gifts

Each component has its own method of raising funds. The Fundraising Committee will coordinate the components to ensure donors are not approached multiple times. The Treasurer is currently working with the Fundraising Committee to develop an overall project budget and timeline in summary form.

Grants

We will seek all possible public funding opportunities as well as private, corporate and community foundation grants.

Corporate and Private Donations

Our fundraising campaign is called "Dream it. Build it. Skate it." There will be an initial quiet phase of the campaign during which individuals will be approached to get involved as donors and/or the Fundraising Committee. We have prepared a fundraising folder to ensure a consistent message is delivered. Different informational pieces will be included depending on the prospective donor. A prospect list will be developed and the Fundraising Committee will assign individuals/teams, as appropriate, to make in-person asks to secure financial commitments.

Service Clubs and Community Organizations

Many service clubs and community organizations are already aware of this project. There will be continued outreach to these types of organizations and they will be approached through the fundraising campaign.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Prior to and during the design phase, sponsorship opportunities will be identified and promoted to potential sponsors and donors during the fundraising campaign. A "Sponsorship Opportunities" brochure will include a diagram of the park and a listing of opportunities which may include: Name of Skatepark, Sponsor's Wall, Bowls, Skate Plaza, Landscaping, Benches, Picnic Area/Shelter, and Donor Recognition Bricks.

Fundraising Events & Activities

Several fundraising projects are ongoing and will continue. They include Skatepark benefit shows (including all-ages shows) held at various venues in the area. There will also be donation cans in retail stores. T-shirts and limited edition stickers will be sold on our website and a various retail locations.

In September 2008, the fundraising campaign will officially launch with the "A2Skatepark Kickoff Weekend". This special 2-day series of events will include a gala dinner on Friday night, a skate "demo" on Saturday afternoon with local amateur and professional skaters, a skate movie screening, cocktail reception and auction on Saturday night and a road trip to a Michigan skatepark on Sunday.

In-kind Donations

In-kind donations will be an important aspect of the project. They will assist us financially, reinforce community commitment to the project and provide with the talent and materials to complete the project.

Recognition levels:

Platinum	\$100,000 +
Gold	\$25,000-99,999
Silver	\$10,000-24,999
Bronze	\$5,000-9,999
Partner	\$1,000-4,999
Sponsor	\$100-999
Friend	Up to \$100

FINANCIAL PLAN

The overall cost to design and build the 30,000 square foot skatepark is estimated at \$800,000. This amount is based on the industry average of between \$25 and \$40 per square foot. The Fundraising Plan described earlier is a projection of possible sources of funding, both cash and in-kind and will be reviewed and updated regularly throughout the campaign.

The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation has been asked to serve as fiscal sponsor. Once a fiscal sponsor is secured, a "no money out" special project fund will be established to receive tax-deductible donations. A process to request payments to vendors for design and construction costs will be established with the fiscal sponsor. The fund will be used exclusively for designing and building the skatepark.

A separate checking account for fundraising and administrative expenses (t-shirts, stickers, shows and events, office supplies, etc.) has been established and is overseen by the Treasurer, who provides a report at each Steering Committee meeting. The Treasurer and Co-Chairs are signers on the account. Proceeds from some benefit shows, sales of t-shirts and bumper stickers and well as any donations specifically designated for this purpose by donors are deposited to this fund.

Costs to operate and maintain the skatepark are expected to be less than \$5,000 annually. This amount is based on the average yearly maintenance costs of other concrete skateparks in Michigan. These costs will be further minimized due to energy saving lighting, involvement of volunteers, donations and anticipated revenue generating activities.

Appendix B sets out a preliminary forecast of expenditures and receipts by quarter over the two and one-half year period ending December 31, 2010.

APPENDIX A

Steering Committee Profiles

Dug Song has skated in Ann Arbor since first arriving as a UM student in 1993. His first attempt to organize a skatepark in 1997 was disrupted by a startup job during the dot-com bubble. His second attempt in 2005 was disrupted by the birth of his son. He hopes the third time's the charm! He's skated cities and parks on both coasts and is intent on raising his son in a city with a skatepark. Dug is currently VP Engineering at Zattoo, a high-tech startup based in Ann Arbor and Zurich bringing TV to the Internet.

Trevor Staples has been an Ann Arbor skateboarder since 1982. Born and raised in Ann Arbor, Trevor has experienced the good, the bad and the ugly of the local skate scene for over 25 years. Now a teacher at Ann Arbor's Burns Park elementary school, he sees first hand the need for a safe, legal place for kids (and grown-ups) to skateboard, inline and rollerskate. In the spring of 2007, Trevor jumped head-first into the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee, and hasn't looked back. He is committed to building strong relationships in the local community to make a free, permanent, concrete skatepark a reality in Ann Arbor.

Jennifer Balch Hale is a product of Ann Arbor Public Schools and attended DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. She has lived in Washington, DC, Hawaii, Washington State and Virginia and returned to Ann Arbor in 1999 to raise her daughter, Julia. She is currently Development/Program Officer for the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF), where she has worked for 8 years. She oversees AAACF's Scholarship and Youth Council programs and works with donors to achieve their charitable goals. She's worked at non-profits her entire career and at Community Foundations for 17 years. She supports a permanent, concrete skatepark because the Youth Council's 2007 Needs Assessment indicated that Ann Arbor youth want more afterschool and recreational activities. She feels a city like Ann Arbor should have a free public skatepark and that our youth shouldn't have to drive to other cities to skate legally. Further, she sees the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee as an opportunity for a youth-adult collaboration to affect public policy and improve the community.

Crystle Partington was raised in Texas, and moved to Michigan in 1988. She has two children who were born in Ann Arbor and attend the Ann Arbor Public Schools. Building on her interest in landscaping, she started a local gardening company in early 2006. Since she was 12 years old, Crystle has supported, and been surrounded by the skate scene. For over 20 years, she's seen first-hand the trials and tribulations in the skate community. Now mother to a young skateboarder, she understands even more the importance of creating a safe, legal, fun environment for skateboarders and inliners. Crystle joined the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee's Steering Committee in the fall of 2007.

Wes Dean has lived in Washtenaw County since 1963. He has been a skateboarder since the late 60s. Wes skated “hardcore” from 1979-1993. After a lull in the late ‘90s he started skating again and has not stopped. He says of skateboarding, “During the years I was not skating I was searching for something that did not exist. Only since my return to skating have I felt better both physically and mentally.” His self-proclaimed role with the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee is to help establish a BIG DEEP pool to “forever carve grind” in.

Max Davis was born in Ann Arbor in 1991 and has lived here ever since. He is a junior at Pioneer High School, and has been skateboarding for five years. Max currently serves on the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation’s Youth Council. He strongly supports the construction of a skatepark in Ann Arbor because he doesn't like having to choose between commuting long distances to skate legally, or getting hassled by police for skating locally.

Chris Cassell started skating in the late eighties on the east side of Detroit. After a brief hiatus from skateboarding in the 1990s, he started back up again just as the next wave of concrete skateparks was built. An Ann Arbor resident since 1999, Chris dreams of teaching his two young children to skate in Ann Arbor's own public concrete skatepark.

Jerusha Costello is reaching out to parents, kids, businesses, and other community members who want to help create a free, public, concrete skatepark in Ann Arbor. Jerusha is a small-business owner, and knows the importance of the relationship between business and the community. Her role with the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee is educating people about the building and planning of the Skatepark. She is mother to a 12 year old skateboarding son, and has a husband who has skated for years.

Pete Nowakowski has been a skateboarder and skatepark advocate for 14 years. From the age 12 to 18, Pete’s driveway was the “skater-built skatepark” for many of Oakland and Livingston County’s skaters. Having skated throughout Michigan, and many famous skateparks and skate spots, working at an Ann Arbor skate shop, and Dexter and Brighton skateparks, Pete sees great potential in Ann Arbor. Now a happily married Ypsilanti resident, EMU student, and professional graphic designer for the Home Builders Association of Washtenaw County, he continues his advocacy with The Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee. He offers his skateboarding experience and enthusiastically supports the design and development of a permanent concrete public skatepark in the Ann Arbor area.

Brian Lambert was born and raised in Michigan, and currently lives in Ann Arbor. He graduated from Washtenaw Community College with degrees in graphic design and video production. Brian is currently a CNC machinist in Ann Arbor. He has been skating for nearly 10 years, and is looking forward to having a good concrete skatepark close to home.

Chad Sprangel spent his early years skating all over Michigan, and at the tender age of 20, self-relocated to Portland, Oregon to experience first-hand the epicenter of the concrete skatepark boom. 3 1/2 years later, having ridden and contributed to some of the best parks around - including the World's largest in Shanghai, China - he finds himself back in Mid-Michigan to advance his education. He brings with him a background in Community Development, seeking to create skateparks that have good flow not only for never-ending-runs, but also to fit naturally into a community partnered with the skatepark itself.

APPENDIX B

Cash Flow Forecast/Timeline

A2 Skatepark Cash Flow Forecast Design & Building Phase	Opening Balance	2008		2009			2010			Total Paid/ Rec		
		Jul- Sep	Oct- Dec	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun	Jul- Sep	Oct- Dec	Jan- Mar	Apr- Jun		Jul- Sep	Sep- Dec
Expenditures												
Design & Engineering					20,000							20,000
Site Prep								40,000				40,000
Skatepark – pouring and finishing concrete									610,000			610,000
Path reroute									10,000			10,000
Lighting (solar)									45,000			45,000
Landscaping									50,000			50,000
Public Art										20,000		20,000
Signage										5,000		5,000
Total expenditures					20,000			40,000	715,000	25,000		800,000
Receipts												
Grants, federal, county, city & private foundations			10,000		50,000		80,000	80,000	100,000	10,000		330,000
Donations, Corporate & Individual (cash and in-kind)		5000				50,000	100,000	150,000	25,000			330,000
Donations, Service Clubs and Community Organizations				20,000			15,000	5,000				40,000
Sponsorship Opportunities						50,000	10,000	2,000	25,000			87,000
Fundraising Events and Activities	1000	5000			2,000			5,000				13,000
Total receipts	1000	10,000	10,000	20,000	52,000	100,000	205,000	242,000	150,000	10,000		800,000
Net cash flow, month		10,000	10,000	20,000	32,000	100,000	205,000	202,000	-565,000	-15,000		
Cash balance	1000	11,000	21,000	41,000	73,000	173,000	378,000	580,000	15,000	0		

APPENDIX C

The following groups, organizations and individuals support the building of a free, concrete, permanent skatepark in Ann Arbor:

[The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation Youth Council](#)

[Community Action Network](#)

Mike Fitzsimmons, Vice President of Operations, Ann Arbor YMCA

[Andy Macdonald](#), Professional Skateboarder, Winner of 16 X Games Medals

[The Neutral Zone Teen Advisory Council](#)

The Ann Arbor [State Street Area Association](#)

Skatepark Site Criteria

Four components must be unified to locate the best skatepark site:

1. Access

Skaters and non-skaters will both need reasonable access to the skateboarding areas. Designating areas for different types of public users will suggest that the skaters present a dangerous group of park users or that the area itself carries some inherent risk.

2. Visibility

Visibility ensures that people are visually aware of the skateboarders. All skateparks enjoy a large degree of spectator activity, but not when they're tucked away in the "least controversial" areas of town. Hiding the skatepark gives the facility to those who wish to engage in hidden activities.

3. Comfort

At a minimum, site amenities should meet basic human needs, such as water and restrooms. Most skateparks provide ample seating and accessible areas to drop a backpack or set a drink. More and more skateparks provide cover and lights.

4. Activity

More skateboarding areas are seeing the benefit of breaking down the barriers between "public" space and "skateboarding" space. Simple skateboarding structures can even be used by pedestrian park visitors in conjunction with skateboarders. It should be assumed that all park visitors are capable of sharing the space in a polite, responsible way.

1. Access

If the intended users, skateboarders, cannot get to the skatepark then it is unlikely that they will use it. Distance is certainly a major factor, but proximity to public transit and arterials should also be considered. An accessible site will allow the users to reach and navigate the area freely. Many skateboarders will reach the facility on foot, or skating, which present some special needs. Skateparks next to busy arterials, for example, may appear very accessible in a vehicular sense until you consider dozens of kids skating to the park after school ... suddenly it seems a bit daunting. Access should be comfortable and inviting, not constrained, delicate, or dangerous.

Skateparks should have the same degree of access as any public facility. While parking is not a high priority (as many users will simply skate to the park), adjacent pedestrian access is key.

Regional skateparks, or those intended to attract users from a large area, should be placed where traffic patterns won't be disturbed. Although most skatepark visitors will be from the immediate area and rely upon either their boards or public transportation, a significant portion will drive to the facility from nearby areas on a regular basis.

The regional skatepark site should be close enough to those services required by any athlete, such as a store for refreshments or nourishment, public transit, and residential areas where the skaters may live.

Access can be measured foremost through pedestrian activity and traffic data. These statistics may be available through local public agencies or collected independently.

2. Visibility And Sociability

It's tempting to rely upon social stigmas and stereotypes when considering why skateparks need to be visible. While it may be true that any facility that intends to attract teenagers should be visible, it's not so those teenagers can't get away with bad behavior. Instead, skateparks must be visible because skateboarders are our youth. They should be treated with the same pride and respect that we, as a society, offer our Little League stars and basketball champs. While there are bad kids who skate, there are many more great kids who ride skateboards. Placing a skatepark where the community can see it essentially says that the skatepark and its users are important to the community.

Visibility also helps area visitors to understand the activity. A non-skating visitor probably does not want to round a corner and suddenly be confronted with a skatepark any more than a skateboarder wants to round a corner and encounter someone walking a big dog on a long leash. Visibility helps all of the visitors read the environment and increase their comfort.

The social qualities of a prospective site can be measured by the number of different kinds of uses the site currently supports, the presence of elderly people or young children, and healthy evening activity.

3. Comfort

Skateboarders are human and have human needs. While exercising, skaters periodically need to rest. Regardless of the climate, water is essential for healthy athletic activity. It's unrealistic to expect that all the park users will bring refreshments to the park with them. A prospective site that has easy access to potable water is good. This will rarely be an issue in urban parks, but in county or state parks, installing water fountains might be a prohibitively expensive component.

The skatepark environment should be attractive and attract other non-skating users to the vicinity. Skate spots near popular walking paths are great for all

users as the skaters are invited to recreate with the rest of the community while walkers can see skateboarders perform the tricks they've been practicing.

Comfort is difficult to quantify but may be measured using indicative factors such as reports of criminal activity (and the area's "reputation"), environmental data, and sanitary facilities.

4. Other Activities

Almost all skatepark aficionados have visited the "lonely skatepark" that is situated off in some remote corner of a park. Nothing else happens near it and people rarely walk by and never stop to watch. This environment is desolate when weather doesn't allow skateboarding. This park does not provide any social interaction to its user except from the peers at the park itself.

Skateparks can and should be a vital component to the larger community gathering space just as skaters are a vital component of our larger community. While skateboarders are eager to celebrate the products of months or years of dedication, other park user groups can demonstrate their own expertise. With enough groups sharing a space, the area itself takes on an identity based on diversity and acceptance—a trait that no urban planner would deny is beneficial.

An area's activity will be in direct relation to the value that the surrounding community places on the site. These values are evident in the property or rent values, nearby business ownership, and retail activity.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATHLETIC FIELD
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FULLER AND OLSON PARKS, AIRPORT FIELDS, AND
NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

Whereas, The Parks Advisory Commission has expressed concerns related to the conditions of the athletic fields for soccer, ultimate Frisbee and field hockey;

Whereas, The Parks Advisory Commission created the Athletic Field Task Force to work with City staff to evaluate the current athletic field reservation practices, policies and field conditions and to provide recommendations for improvements;

Whereas, The Athletic Field Task Force and staff have put in countless hours to assess current practices, policies, and field conditions;

Whereas, As a result of this evaluation process, the Task Force and staff have recommended a number of significant recommendations;

Whereas, The Athletic Field Task Force and staff presented their findings to the Parks Advisory Commission on April 15, 2008;

RESOLVED, That the Parks Advisory Commission supports the recommendations of the Athletic Field Task Force and staff which includes the following work to be accomplished during the 2008 and 2009 athletic field season:

- Bid out and implement capital improvements at Fuller and Olson Fields beginning in late summer 2008 and continuing through the 2009 season
- In late spring 2008, establish a core staff team to
 - Manage and operate athletic fields at Fuller, Olson and neighborhood parks and the Airport
 - Revise and implement updated athletic field policies
 - Evaluate and update reservation practices and fee structure for athletic fields
 - Revise maintenance practices to improve athletic fields at Fuller, Olson and neighborhood parks and the Airport
- Provide for information dissemination, such as a kiosk, at Fuller Park
- Evaluate and update field use arrangements between the City and Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation during the 2008 season
- Provide ongoing updates to the Parks Advisory Commission during 2008 and 2009; and

RESOLVED, That the Athletic Field Task Force continue to work with staff to implement the above identified recommendations.

Date: May 20, 2008

**Parks and Recreation
Fund 0018
Eliminated Projects
As of April, 2008**

C-1

NOTES:

1. Revised Parks Capital Project Schedule as of 4/30/08
2. Ongoing review and evaluation of projects will continue for project adjustments.
3. All project costs are included in project budget (i.e. staff salaries and fringes, contractual services, construction, etc.)

Project Name	Project Description	Project Manager	Project #	Project Budget	Exp to date	Encumbered Amount	Funding Available for Project	Funding Available for Other Projects	Implications for Annual Operations, Maintenance & Staffing	Notes
PROJECTS TO ELIMINATE (FUND 0018)										
OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL ED AREAS		Amy Kuras	9503	\$300,000	\$139,902	\$10,000		\$150,098		Project removed at this time. Wayfinding sign designs had been completed by consultant for Bird Hills, Black Pond, Doyle, Cedar Bend, Marshall and Scarlet Mitchell.
LANDFILL IMPROVEMENTS	Phase I of Landfill Improvements	Jeff Dehring	9605	\$295,923	\$1,129			\$294,794		Project removed at this time.
SOCCER FACILITY DEVELOPMENT	Design and development of soccer facility, including parking, restrooms, site amenities	Jeff Dehring								This project idea was considered for potential use of fund balance money (\$750,000)
SOUTH UNIVERSITY	Neighborhood park improvements, including landscaping, furniture, etc.	Jeff Dehring								Project removed at this time. Cost estimate of \$30,000.
HURON RIVER MULTIPURPOSE TRAIL	Huron River Trail repairs and renovations and to help fund Border to Border trail completion	Amy Kuras	9680	\$100,000	\$8,657			\$91,343		Project removed at this time.
BANDEMER PARK TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION	Construction of Tunnel +/- \$2 million to be funded with grants, approximate costs of \$500,000 to eliminate safety concerns with track crossing	Amy Kuras								Project removed at this time.
BANDEMER PARK TUNNEL STUDY AND ENGINEERING WORK	Feasibility study to provide detailed basemap work, to work with railroad on allowable standards, and to develop concept plans for underpass to eliminate safety issues with track crossing. Second phase, to provide construction documents to facilitate grant applications and license	Amy Kuras	9258	\$170,000	\$102,056			\$67,944		Feasibility study complete. Engineering/construction plans were bid and quotes for consultant services were received.
SUBTOTAL				\$865,923	\$251,744	\$10,000	\$0	\$604,179		
GRAND TOTAL				\$865,923	\$251,744	\$10,000	\$0	\$604,179		

City Council Items Update List

Project Description	Cost	Staff	Council Date	Council Action	Source of Funding
Resolution To Approve Contract Change Order No. 1, Increasing the Total Contract Amount to \$163,174.00 for Completion of Swift Run Dog Park Construction	\$19,475.50	JD	4/7/2008	approved	Fund 0018
Resolution to Approve a Construction Contract with Allied Building Services, Inc. to Implement Phase I of the Market Master Plan- Existing Canopy Improvements	\$95,645.00	JD	3/17/2008	approved	Fund 0046
Resolution Creating Golf Courses Advisory Task Force	NA	-	3/17/2008	approved	NA
Resolution to approve a Construction project for game court renovation at Burns Park Tennis Courts, Ellsworth Park Basketball Court, and Leslie Park Basketball Courts	\$109,796.00		3/3/2008	approved	Fund 0071
Resolution to approve purchase and installation of restroom facilities at Bandemer and Olson Parks	\$154,013.00	AK	3/3/2008	approved	Fund 0018
Resolution to Approve a Construction Contract for renovations to the Buhr Park Main Pool Marcite Liner	\$28,400.00	JD	2/19/2008	approved	Fund 0071
Resolution to approve a partnership agreement with Community Action Network for operation of Bryant and Northside Community Centers	\$59,088.00	CS	1/7/2008	approved	General Fund
Resolution to approve purchase of two zamboni unites for the total purchase amount of \$144,300	\$144,300.00	DS	11/19/2007	approved	Fleet Fund and Fund 0071
Resolution to approve a construction contract for Bandemer Park Site Renovations	\$149,415.00	AK	10/1/2007	approved	Fund 0025
Resolution to approve a construction contract for the Swift Run Dog Park	\$143,698.00	JD	9/4/2007	approved	Fund 0018

Park Planning Capital Project Update May, 2008

Bandemer Park

- Phase II: Site renovations, including parking, storm water retention, landscaping, and a dirt bike course are under construction.
- Phase III: The disc golf course construction is complete. Over 100 dead Ash trees were removed in February. The course map was delivered and installed.
- Phase IV: Paving of the north parking lot is complete.
- Bids for vault-style restrooms were received and were approved by City Council, and should be delivered by July. There will be one double restroom building on the north end near the disc golf course and picnic shelter, and one on the south end of the park near the rowing facility and dirt bike jump course. There will also be a small storage building for rowing equipment.

Bluffs Park

- NAP will address trail signage, trail modifications, and removal of debris at the Bluffs Park site.

Bridge Repairs/Renovations

- A park bridge assessment evaluated the condition of Bandemer Park vehicle bridge, Island Park pedestrian bridge and Gallup Park vehicle bridge. Repair work for the Bandemer Park bridge is expected to include installing riprap, replacing broken/damaged deck boards, and painting the infrastructure of the Bridge. An engineering firm will be hired this summer to prepare construction documents for repair work.

Buhr Park Pool/Ice Arena

- Bids were received for the pool liner renovations and was approved by City Council in March. Repairs are nearly complete.

Cobblestone Farm Barn

- The lower level office area will be reconfigured to accommodate a new Parks and Recreation Services Customer Service Center. Some exterior renovations will be completed to solve drainage problems this spring.
- Renovations and upgrades are planned for the kitchen area. Improvements are needed to better accommodate facility rental amenities and services.

Consultant Proposals

- Proposals were submitted for general Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Engineering services to help expedite several projects, including the Cobblestone kitchen renovations, bridge repairs, retaining wall repairs, stormwater basins, and minor architectural work at several facilities. Four consulting firms were chosen who will be on retainer for these and other projects. Contracts will go to Council in June.

Mary Beth Doyle Park (Brown Park)

- A full opening is scheduled for the beginning of June.
- The installation of newly constructed wetland areas, native plant materials, and several varieties of seed stock has been completed. Temporary fencing is currently protecting much of this area.

- The disc golf course will be upgraded and reconfigured in some areas.
- A new play structure will be installed next spring, along with other play area upgrades.

Farmers Market

- Beckett & Raeder, Inc. has developed preliminary design schematics for the Market with updated cost estimates.
- Staff is evaluating project costs. Alternative funding options are being researched. A phased implementation may be necessary.

Game Court and Pathway Paving Projects

- Bids were received to color coat game courts at Churchill Downs, Glacier Highlands, Lansdowne, and Northside parks. Work will take place in the spring, 2008.
- The Burns Park tennis courts, Ellsworth, Leslie, and Southeast Area basketball courts will be renovated in the Spring 2008. The project was approved by City Council on March 3rd.

Greenview Park

- No further action has occurred on this site pending Ann Arbor Public Schools approval to proceed with playground design and installation.

Leslie Park

- A public meeting to discuss park improvements was held on January 22nd. Work will include a new play area, landscaping, and some signage and will take place in the summer of 2008.

Leslie Science Center

- Improvements at the Critter House include an addition for a larger classroom-like space with a window for wildlife viewing. Work is complete except for carpet installation.

Olson Park

- Additional phases of improvements at Olson Park are scheduled spring 2008. Elements currently planned include the addition of a restroom building, parking lot final paving, and additional landscape plant materials.
- A contract has been awarded for the installation of additional naturalized planting areas in several locations in the park over a three-year period. This same contractor will be working with County Drain Office staff to modify the constructed wetland areas in the park to comply with MDEQ requirements. This is a continuation of the original project construction scope.

Project Grow

- A Project Grow Community Garden is being installed at Buhr Park near Allen School. Project Grow and the neighbors have completed drafting guidelines for the site.

Redwood Park

- Nearly all of the proposed improvements which included a bench, landscaping, and sidewalk through the park are complete. Restoration work will be completed in the spring.

Riverside Park

- A public meeting to discuss replacement of the playground was held on January 29th. No one attended the meeting, most likely because there are not many families in the neighborhood. As the play area needs to be replaced to meet safety guidelines, a play area will be designed in-house and installed by contract. Construction will be planned for summer, 2008.

South Maple Park

- Replacement of the walkway connection to the housing units adjacent to the park will be completed in the spring of 2008 using developer contributions.

Sculpture Plaza

- Renovations to the plaza are complete except for the sculpture restoration, which CAPP is coordinating. The sculpture is scheduled to be returned to the site in May.

Swift Run Dog Park

- The park will be closed temporarily to repair the turf.
- Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation is overseeing all operations.

Trail and pathway repairs

- Bids were received from contractors for renovations to pathways at Buhr, Sugarbush, Huron Highlands, Leslie Park frontage on Pontiac Trail, and South Maple Park will be completed in Summer, 2008. The project will be on the May Council agenda.



CITY OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
Parks and Recreation Services
809 Taylor St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Phone: 734-994-2780
Web: www.a2gov.org/parks

Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Events for April/May 2008

Registration is ongoing for Spring/Summer 2008 classes/programs; lessons and Summer Day Camps. Visit www.a2gov.org/parks to register using our new online system.

Welcome to the city of Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Services. We have four fantastic pools for you and your family to enjoy both leisure swimming and instructional lessons (group and private): Buhr Park Pool, Fuller Park Pool & Waterslide, Mack Indoor Pool and Veteran's Memorial Pool and Water slide. The pools open Memorial Day weekend.

Summer Season Passes: Valid at all pools from May 24 to Sept. 1, 2008. Season Passes can be used at Mack, Buhr, Veteran's Memorial and Fuller Pools for all public swim times and Tot Splashes. Passes may be purchased at all pools.

Pre-Season Rate: Purchase your pass before May 27 (fee/resident discount)

Youth/Senior	Adult	Family* (2 adults, 3 children)
\$105/\$85	\$135/\$110	\$250/\$200

Regular Rate (fee/resident discount)

Youth/Senior	Adult	Family* (2 adults, 3 children)
\$120/\$100	\$155/\$125	\$295/\$240

Farmers' Market www.a2gov.org/market. 315 Detroit Street, 734.994.FARM (3276). One of Michigan's longest running open air Farmers' Markets offering locally grown and produced products located in the Kerrytown District. Farmers Market Hours of Operation: Saturday only, January to April, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please remember no dogs are allowed on market days. Did you know you can also rent the Farmers' Market? The open-air locale is great for any number of events including parties, fundraisers and more. Call 734.994.3276 and we'll help you plan your event. Public Market Advisory Commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 5pm in City Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

Farmers Market hours of operation: May through December, Wednesday and Saturday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. January through April, Saturday only, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; **Wednesday market start May 7, 2008.**

Flower Day at the Market: Sunday, May 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy food, entertainment and shopping at a special Sunday market where the best deals on flowers, plants and other items.

The City of Ann Arbor operates two golf courses. Leslie Park Golf Course and Huron Hills Golf Course. Both courses are generally open from sunrise to sunset with twilight rates available throughout the season. Food service and merchandise are available at both course clubhouses.

Leslie Park Golf Course, 2120 Traver Rd. Ann Arbor, 734.994.1163. Leslie Park Reservations: Please call 734.994.1163 to check course availability, or book online at leslie-park.com to make a reservation.

Huron Hills Golf Course, 3465 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, 734.997.6840, www.a2gov.org/golf. Huron Hills Reservations: Please call 734.971.6840 to check course availability, or book online at www.a2gov.org/golf to make a reservation.

Adult Golf Clinics: Get a jump-start on the 2008 season by participating in a series of pre-season clinics. Players of all skill levels except "first-time" golfers are welcome. You may register for individual clinics or all four. Fees: \$18/clinic or \$60 for all four clinics.

Clinic #1 - THE LONG GAME: In this clinic, you will cover the first elements of the game. From the tee shot, the layup, approach and all full swing shots.

Clinic #2 - THE SHORT GAME: In this clinic, you will learn to save strokes and get it close with the touch shots.

Clinic #3 - TROUBLE SHOTS: In this clinic, you will learn how to play from the sand, rough, hazards and up or downhill lies.

Clinic #4 - PUTTING: In this clinic, you will learn about putting. Learn how to roll it, read greens and lagging it close to save strokes on the green.

Clinic Schedule

Clinic #	Date	Time	Code
1	Monday, April 21	6-7:30 PM	HG401
1	Monday, April 28	6-7:30 PM	HG405
2	Tuesday, April 22	6-7:30 PM	HG402
2	Tuesday, April 29	6-7:30 PM	HG406
3	Wednesday, April 23	6-7:30 PM	HG403
3	Wednesday, April 30	6-7:30 PM	HG407
4	Thursday, April 24	6-7:30 PM	HG404
5	Thursday, May 1	6-7:30 PM	HG408

Private Golf Instruction: Private golf instruction is highly recommended for the experienced golfer. Private instruction allows players the opportunity to address specific problems and areas of concern. Please call 734.971.0246 or 734.971.6840 to schedule a private lesson or receive more information.

Private Instruction Fees

	One student	2+ Students
1/2 hour lesson at local driving range	\$35	\$30/student
1 hour lesson at local driving range	\$50	\$40/student
*9 hole playing lesson at Huron Hills	\$65	\$50/student
*9 hole playing lesson at Leslie Park	\$80	\$60/student

*Playing lesson rates are based on two hours of on-course instruction while playing nine holes

Adult Golf Instruction: The City of Ann Arbor adult golf instruction teaches both the fundamentals of golf (grip, stance, alignment, full swing, short game, and putting) and necessary playing skills (club selection, course management, rules, and etiquette). Minimum age: 15. Golfers may choose between 4-week beginner classes, 4-week intermediate classes, or 7-week beginner classes. See below for course descriptions and schedules.

4-Week Beginner Classes: Designed for players with little or no playing experience. Five hours of range instruction, one hour of etiquette instruction, and two hours of on-course instruction. Class limit is 10. All classes meet at Huron Hills Golf Course.

4-Week Intermediate Classes: Designed for experienced golfers. To qualify for intermediate classes, golfers must be able to strike the ball regularly with flight. Four hours of range instruction and four hours of on-course instruction. Class limit is 10. The first two classes (week 1) meet at Miles of Golf, the last four classes (weeks 2-4) meet at Huron Hills Golf Course.

7-Week Beginner Classes: Designed for players with little or no playing experience. Five hours of range instruction, one hour of etiquette instruction, and two hours of on-course instruction. Class limit is 10. All classes meet at Huron Hills Golf Course.

4-Week Adult Beginner Golf Instruction Schedule. Select one code for specific dates and times. All classes meet at Huron Hills.

Dates	Days	Times	Dates	Times	Code
5/06-5/22	Tu & Th	5:30-6:30 PM	5/27	6-8 PM	HG101
5/06-5/22	Tu & Th	6:45-7:45 PM	5/27	6-8 PM	HG102

4-Week Adult Intermediate Golf Instruction Schedule. Select one code for specific dates and times. The first two classes (week 1) meet at Miles of Golf, the last four classes (weeks 2-4) meet at Huron Hills Golf Course.

Dates	Days	Times	Dates	Times	Code
5/05-5/14	M & W	5:30-6:30 PM	5/19 & 5/28	6-8 PM	HG201
5/05-5/14	M & W	6:45-7:45 PM	5/19 & 5/28	6-8 PM	HG202

7-Week Adult Beginner Golf Instruction Schedule. Select one code for specific dates and times. All classes meet at Huron Hills.

Dates	Days	Times	Dates	Times	Code
5/07-6/11	W	3-4 PM	6/18	6-8 PM	HG301
5/07-6/11	W	4:15-5:15 PM	6/18	6-8 PM	HG302

PARKS & RECREATION SENIOR PROGRAMS

Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave., 734.769.5911, www.a2gov.org/senior

*Line and Party Dance: Thursdays, 1 p.m. May 22- June 26. Fee: *Free for Washtenaw county residents ages 65 or older. Registration required, limited availability.

Senior Strength Training (Nia Fit): Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15 to 11 a.m. Session 1: May 5- June 18 no class May 26, Fee: \$76/ 60 resident discount. We use hand held weights and elastic resistance to gain an overall workout to build bone density and strengthen muscles of the arms, legs, abdominal, and back. Please call 734.998.1198.

*Tai Chi: Friday, 9:30 a.m. May 23-June 27. Fee: *Free for Washtenaw county residents ages 65 or older. Registration required, limited availability. Tai Chi is an exercise for health and relaxation and a martial art.

Yoga: Tuesdays, 1 p.m. Session II: May 20-June 24. Try a gentle approach to fitness through Yoga. Stretch to develop correct body alignment along with balance, flexibility and concentration. Participants must be ambulatory and able to get up and down from the floor unassisted.

PARKS & RECREATION ADULT PROGRAMS

1320 Baldwin Ave., 734.769.5911, www.a2gov.org/AdultProgram

Beginning Guitar: Wednesdays, 5 to 6 p.m. May 28- July 2. Fee:\$100. Have fun while learning everything you need to enjoy playing guitar: tuning, chords, and melodies in a relaxed group setting. Instructor, Betsy Beckerman has years of experience teaching and performing. Class meets at the Ann Arbor Senior Center.

Dulcimer – Appalachian or Mountain: Wednesdays, 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. , May 28-July 2. Fee:\$100. Enjoy learning how to play in a variety of styles and tunings in a relaxed group setting. The dulcimer is an easy

to learn instrument and you'll be playing songs in the first class. Class meets at the Ann Arbor Senior Center.

Chair Caning: Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:30p.m. May 28-June 25. WCC Class, to register go to www.wccnet.edu Fee: TBD.

Coffee Tasting: Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. May 27 & June 3. WCC Class, to register go to www.wccnet.edu Fee: TBD. Class meets at the Ann Arbor Senior Center.

Improvisation: Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m. March 19 to April 24. Instructor: Cecille Lindgren. WCC Class, to register go to www.wccnet.edu. Fee: \$89. Class meets at the Cobblestone Farm.

**Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Road, 734.997.1553, www.lesliesnc.org
Kirsten Levinsohn, director, info@lesliesnc.org**

Earth Day Festival: Sunday, April 27, noon to 4 p.m. Free to all! Celebrate the earth with local environmental organizations. Explore and participate in the variety of hands on activities and demonstrations while listening to Joe Reilly perform his earth friendly songs. All are welcomed to come dressed as their favorite plant or animal to join the ALL SPECIES PARADE.

Frog Fest: Saturday, May 17 from 7-9 p.m. Code: LS033. \$6. per person/\$25 per family, all ages, adult required. Croak, ribbit and peep on over for our festival of frogs! Practice making frog calls before hoppin' on down to the pond to join the frogs as they jump and splash in the duckweed. Discover more about frogs, salamanders and toads as we explore their different stages of development with games, activities, and observation.

Tiny Tot Time: Fridays, April 18, May 9, May 23, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. \$6 per child, Pre-registration not required, ages 1-3 years with a caregiver; pay at the door. Join us for a carnival of indoor and outdoor hands-on activities. Explore the joys of forests, fields and fauna through hikes, songs, stories, puppets, games and crafts. Stop in the Critter House to visit Frieda the iguana and her animal friends or meander past our Resident Birds of Prey to spy on owls, hawks and other raptors. Themes are different each week so visit often.

Spring into Nature Stories for Tykes (4-5 yrs. Old): Tues., April 22, 29 from 1-2:30 p.m. Code: LS309. \$43, \$36 resident discount, ages 4-5 years. Fall like a leaf, swim like a fish, and fly like a bird into the world of award-winning children's author Lois Ehlert as her books guide our springtime adventures around the garden, through the forest, and into the Critter Room!

Nature Artists for Tykes (4-5 yrs. Old): Wed., May 7,14,21,28 from 1-2:30 p.m. Code: LS310. \$43, \$36 resident discount. With leaves, berries, flowers and feathers, let your preschooler find their inner artist. We will do a variety of art projects with natural objects while exploring our wonderful natural world!

**Fuller Park 50M Outdoor Pool & Waterslide, 1519 Fuller Rd., 734.994.4263, www.a2gov.org/fuller
Public Swimming Schedule**

Monday through Friday, May 26 to June 13, 1 to 7 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, May 24 to June 13, 1 to 7 p.m.

Fuller Masters Swimming Program

Masters swimming provides group training, written workouts, and coaching for all levels of adult swimmers, from recreational exercisers to triathletes. Minimum requirement to join the program is a swimming ability of finishing one mile per workout. Morning registration is accepted directly by the coach at workouts or by mail using a registration form from this brochure. For evening registration please arrive 15 minutes before your first swim with payment and we will issue your evening master's pool pass.

Morning practice will have a coach on-hand five days a week, evening practice will be coached Monday,

Wednesday, and Friday with written workouts provided for Tuesday and Thursdays. **May 26 to September 1 (Fuller) Monday to Friday, 5:45 to 7:15 a.m. OR 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

Master's Fees

5 days Code: FP0655	\$190/\$160 resident discount
3 days Code: FP0653	\$130/\$110 resident discount
2 days Code: FP0652	\$96 /\$85 resident discount

City of Ann Arbor Summer Day Camps:

It's easier than ever to sign up for day camps at Buhr Park, Fuller Park and Gallup Park as well as activities and programs offered through Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. Visit our Web site at www.a2gov.org/parks and you'll find the link to our online registration system. Please note: Leslie Science & Nature Center has a separate online system. Go to www.lesliesnc.org. Browse activities, review program details and register online at your convenience 24/7.

City of Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Day Camps provide youth with opportunities to explore the parks with swimming, nature exploration, sports, canoeing, fishing, science & more! The Fuller Park Pool & Buhr Park Pool Day Camps are the perfect camps for children who enjoy swimming plus the camps offer fun sports, games, arts and crafts along with swimming/playing.

Campers from tots-to-teens will revel in the Leslie Science & Nature Camp as they unlock nature's mysteries through hands-on discovery and outdoor fun with visits to ponds, woods, fields, Critter House and new raptor center. Gallup Park River Day Camps take campers along the Huron River for canoeing, paddleboating, kayaking and fishing. Adventures also include cookouts and games in the park.

Fun, friends and great memories in the Summer Day Camps at the Ann Arbor Parks! For details visit www.a2gov.org/camps.

Argo Canoe Livery, 1055 Longshore Drive, 734.668.7411, 734.994.2778; www.a2gov.org/canoe

The Argo Livery provides canoe, rowboat, and kayak rentals in a quiet natural setting. The Argo site has a new livery, with docks, hiking trails and a park shelter on the river. See below details on canoe trips offered from the Argo Livery. We can assist you in planning for a fun outing for you or your group. Paddle parties available at the new Argo Canoe Livery picnic shelter. The livery may close due to bad weather, please call ahead 734.668.7411.

Argo Canoe Livery Schedule

April 12-May 23: Saturday, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday through Friday, CLOSED

May 24-Sept. 1, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Gallup Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Road, 734.662.9319, 734.994.2778; www.a2gove.org/canoe

Enjoy paddling a boat on the beautiful Huron River right in the City of Ann Arbor. Gallup Park Canoe Livery features canoe, kayak, pedal boat, and rowboat rentals. The Canoe Livery also offers programs such as river day camps for children and kayak instruction for adults. Gallup Park, voted Ann Arbor's Best Community Park, is a beautiful site located on the Huron River and includes a coffee shop, 3.25-mile asphalt trail, fishing, observation decks, playgrounds, picnic shelters, meeting room and nature areas. The livery may close due to bad weather. Please call ahead 734.662.9319 or visit www.a2gov.org/canoe.

Gallup Canoe Livery Schedule

April 12 to 27: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday through Thursday, CLOSED except reservations

April 28 to May 23: Everyday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
May 24 to September 1: Everyday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Gallup Park Coffee Shop: Features Zingerman's fresh baked goods and coffee with riverside seating. Open nice weather weekends in March & April. May through September open 7 days/week same hours as Gallup Canoe Livery.

RIVER DAY CAMPS: Pre-registration is required - see registration instructions on pages 4 and 5 of this brochure. For our camp refund and scholarship policies, please see page 4 and 5. To receive the resident discount, you must be a resident of the City of Ann Arbor and send in a copy of your driver's license with your registration form. For further information call the Facility Supervisor at Gallup Park 734.662.9319.

Spring River Camp – 1st-5th Grades. April 7-11 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Join us for River Day Camp full of springtime adventures to fill your school break week with fun and games exploring Gallup Park. Muck about in the mud, paddle a boat, skate at an ice rink, swim in a pool plus art and games will make our week complete with camp based out of the cozy Gallup Park Meeting Room. Camp fee: \$320/\$260 resident discount

Preschool Programs at Gallup Park: Pre-registration for preschool programs is required. For further information call the Facility Supervisor at Gallup Park 734.662.9319.

River Kids in Spring: Wednesdays, April 16, 23, 30 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. \$48/\$39 resident discount per child/month, ages 2-4 yrs w/caregiver. Usher in the spring discovering Gallup Park! Explore islands, butterfly gardens and our new river themed playground. As the weather warms we will have adventures on paddleboats looking for signs of spring on the river.

River Tots: Tuesdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. \$50/\$40 resident discount. per child/month, ages 0-2 yrs w/caregiver. Little ones climb in your stroller and off we go! Together we'll take a brisk stroll for exercise on Gallup Park's paved trails. Each week we will investigate a different part of the river world with art, stories, songs, and discovery. Free coffee and conversation for the caregivers will all be part of the fun.

River Kids: Come on down to the river for spring and summer adventures on the water! Each week we will explore the river world by paddling a kayak, canoe or paddleboat on Gallup Pond. The children will experience the thrill of catching fish off the docks with a bamboo rod. Discovering river animals with stories, art, and play will round out the fun. River Kids now available every month!

Tuesdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, May 7, 14, 21, 28	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Thursdays, May 8, 15, 22, 29	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Thursdays, June 5, 12, 19, 26	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, July 8, 15, 22, 29	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Thursdays, August 7, 14, 21, 28	from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

\$64/\$52 resident discount. per child/month, ages 2-4 yrs w/caregiver

Special Activities at Gallup Canoe Livery:

Kayaking Kindergartners *NEW*: Fridays, May 9, 16, 23, 30 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. \$64/\$52 resident discount. per child/month, ages 5-6 yrs w/caregiver. NEW program for 5 and 6 year olds! Venture farther down the river to discover Gallup Pond in double kayaks, canoes and paddleboats. Fish for bluegill, sunfish and bass to set up a fish tank in the canoe livery. Look for and learn about turtles, birds, fish and river bugs with stories, art and play. Younger siblings ages 1-4 years old are also welcome to register.

* NEW* Bagels & Boats: Last Sunday of each Month, April 27, May 25 from 9 to 11 a.m. \$20 per boat, ages one to adult for families! Munch on bagels, fruit and juice before venturing out on boats and fishing off the docks. Double & single kayaks, canoes and paddleboats are the boat choices. Learn how to paddle a boat and discover the wonderful river world. Program led by experienced canoe livery staff.

Canoe and Kayak Auction: Saturday, May 10 beginning at noon. Public auction of used and damaged boats. Featured this year are double and single kayaks along with our aluminum canoes.

Evening Bird Walk: Friday, May 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. Free, all ages. Join City Ornithologist Dea Armstrong as she leads a walk to look for birds in the evening in the Gallup Park and Furstenberg Nature Area.

Special Activities at Argo Canoe Livery:

Bonfire in the River & Full Moon Paddle. Saturday, May 17 from 7 to 10 p.m. \$18/boat. Paddle a canoe or kayak up to a blazing fire floating in the middle of Argo Pond! Venture out on the water at night with only firelight and moonlight to guide your way. The Argo Canoe Livery stays open late on this special summer moonlit night for paddling on 2-mile Argo Pond. No preregistration, just come on out to the Argo Canoe Livery.

Kayak Instruction – Beginner. Plus Lesson & Safety Practice. Tuesdays, May 13 & May 20. \$120/person, ages 14 or older, meets at Argo Canoe Livery. Quiet World Sports brings us a comprehensive beginner kayak program that will insure you get started in kayaking the right way. In the first session students learn all about the various kayaks and gear and learn solid paddling skills. The second session gives students a chance to practice and refine their skills while adding some advanced technique. Also during the second session instructors will demonstrate important safety skills and make sure all students have their questions answered about what would be the best kayak for them. All gear provided. Pre-registration required.