



PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION CALENDAR JULY - AUGUST

July 17	PAC Meeting 4:00 PM City Hall Council Chambers
August 6	City Council 7:00 PM City Hall Council Chambers
August 7	LAC Meeting 4:00 PM City Hall, 6 th Floor Conference Room
August 20	City Council 7:00 PM City Hall Council Chambers
August 21	PAC Meeting 4:00 PM City Hall Council Chambers
September 3	Labor Day Observed City Offices Closed

PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING - TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2007
4:00 P.M. – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 Minutes of the June 19, 2007 Regular Session

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC HEARING

B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

C - NEW BUSINESS

D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS

E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

E-1 Swift Run Dog Park & Off-Leash Areas Update

E-2 Park Facility Business Plan - Pools

F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

F-1 Park Security Update

G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

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

H-1 Allen Creek Greenway Task Force Report

H-2 Athletic Fields Task Force Report

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 Project Update

K-3 Park and Recreation Events for July - August 2007

K-4 February PAC Work Session Summary

TELEvised ON ANN ARBOR COMMUNITY TELEVISION NETWORK CHANNEL 16

LIVE: TUESDAY July 17, 2007 4:00 P.M.

REPLAYS: FRIDAY July 20, 2007 10:00 A.M. AND MONDAY, July 23, 2007, 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
June 19, 2007**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, June 19, 2007 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 4:12 p.m. by Chair, L. Berauer.

II. Roll Call:

- Members Present: (8) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, S. Offen (left the meeting at 6:05 p.m.), D. Barrett
T. Berla, J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, S. Rosencrans
- Ex-Officio Members Present: (1) R. Johnson, S. Kunselman (arrived at 4:39 p.m.)
- Ex- Officio Members Absent: (0) None.
- Members Absent: (0) None.
- Staff Present: (6) C. Smith, A. Kuras, K.C. Bemish, D. Borneman,
J. Dehring, L. Bowen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Berauer asked that the discussion regarding item C-2 (Huron River Drive update) be moved to New Business. The Commission agreed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

Harvey Caplan resident on Hunting Valley Dr. spoke against the sale of Golf Course property.

T. Annis also a resident on Hunting Valley Dr. spoke against sale of Golf Course property.

Nancy Caplan resident on Hunting Valley Dr. spoke against the sale of Golf Course property.

Jeff Debor spoke on the re-design of Bandemer Park.

NEW BUSINESS

C-2 Huron River Drive

Alexis Marcarello-Dileo summarized the public meeting process and the options that have been considered for Huron River Drive. Recommendations for improvements to Huron River Drive will be considered by City Council in August 2007.

J. Lawter suggested that altering the foot print of the roadway could provide space for a bike lane.

A. Kuras spoke on the delay in installation of a bike lane on Huron River Drive.

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 G. Nystuen moved, supported by **T. Berla** to approve the minutes of April 17, 2007 with corrections. The minutes of April 17, 2007 were approved unanimously.

The Commission agreed to defer action on the minutes of May 15, 2007 pending further discussion.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS – None.

B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B-1 Swift Run Dog Park Agreement

C. Smith reviewed the proposed partnership agreement between City and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission for development and operation of a dog park facility. The agreement will be submitted to City Council for action in August 2007.

B. Macomber asked about the planned park hours of the facilities.

C. Smith indicated that there are no plans to light the Swift Run Dog Park Facility and therefore proposed hours for the Swift Run Dog Park are dawn to dusk for safety reasons.

B. Macomber asked if other parks adhere to the dawn to dusk hours. She also suggested a student and senior rates be considered for the Dog Park.

G. Nystuen asked about fees for use of the Dog Park and indicated that the proposed fees seemed expensive.

C. Smith stated that parks and recreation fees are established through an analysis of the cost to provide the service and a comparison of fees for similar services. Because the Swift Run dog park site will be developed and operated under a partnership, both City and County residents would be considered as resident users.

G. Nystuen expressed her support for minimal fees for use of the dog park facility.

S. Kunselman questioned whether participation will be limited if the fee for the use of the Dog Park is too high.

B. Macomber stated she is confident the community will use the dog park facility.

T. Berla moved, supported by **S. Rosencrans** to discuss the Resolution to recommend approval of the City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County Swift Run Dog Park Agreement.

L. Berauer read the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE CITY OF ANN ARBOR AND WASHTENAW COUNTY SWIFT RUN DOG PARK AGREEMENT

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation Services and the Washtenaw County Park and Recreation Commission will partner to provide a dog park facility at Swift Run Park, which is located at the northeast corner of the Swift Run Park; and

Whereas, The City/County partnership enables the City development resources and the County maintenance resources to provide the facility that will serve both City and County residents.

Resolved, To recommend that City Council approve the City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County Dog Park Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding for Dog Park Operation/Maintenance.

Submitted by: Parks and Recreation Services
Date: June 19, 2007

B. Macomber suggested an addition to the Resolution to include a student/senior reduced rate and revisions to the proposed posted rules.

L. Berauer moved, supported by **T. Berla** to consider the friendly amendment.

Ayes: (7) **G. Nystuen, B. Macomber, L. Berauer, T. Berla, S. Rosencrans, D. Barrett, J. Lawter**

Nays: (0) **None.**

Absent: (1) **S. Offen**

Motion Passed

L. Berauer stated since the amendment to the Resolution offered by **B. Macomber** was moved, supported and accepted, the Commission was asked by a voice vote to consider the Resolution to Recommend Approval of the City of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County Swift Run Dog Park Agreement.

Ayes: (7) **G. Nystuen, B. Macomber, L. Berauer, T. Berla, S. Rosencrans, D. Barrett, J. Lawter**

Nays: (0) **None.**

Absent: (1) **S. Offen**

On a voice vote the Resolution was accepted.

R. Johnson asked about a limited budget for development of a dog park facility.

C. Smith stated that limited funding has been designated for development of dog parks.

L. Berauer moved, supported by **D. Barrett** to accept the Resolution to Recommend Creation of Off Leash Dog Exercise Options for City Residents.

C. Macomber read Resolution to Recommend Creation of Off Leash Dog Exercise Options for City Residents to the Commission:

Resolution to Recommend Creation of Off Leash Dog Exercise
Options for City Residents

Whereas:

-Ann Arbor has a large constituency of dog owners who want to have areas to exercise their dogs off-leash.

-Potential sites for dog parks can be located in our extensive parkland inventory.

-Dog ownership and dog walking, like other hobbies and outdoor activities supported by the City's Park programming, have proven to be beneficial to human physical and mental health.

185
186 -Socializing dogs to other dogs and humans in public environments, and
187 providing them with adequate exercise, is widely acknowledged to
188 produce better behaved and less troublesome dog citizens and happier
189 dog owners.

190
191 - Cities such as New York City have found that dog/human conflicts and off
192 leash offenses have decreased since creating off leash dog parks.

193
194 -Opening conveniently located dog parks should significantly reduce the off
195 leash infractions that are a major park rule enforcement issue in Ann Arbor.

196
197 -Spending money to meet the need for off leash dog parks is superior to
198 spending money to fine and ticket tax payers for illegal off leash dog
199 walking because there are no legal facilities.

200
201 -Other equivalent cities and counties such as Saline, South Lyons, Detroit,
202 Westland, and many others across the country have one or more off leash
203 areas for their residents to recreate with their dogs off leash.

204
205 -Ann Arbor currently has no off leash exercise areas for dog owners.
206 -The Swift Run dog park, even when open, will be conveniently accessible
207 only to one side of town.

208
209 -Locating one or more additional off leash dog parks has been greatly limited due to
210 most City parks being scheduled for other activities many of which, unlike legitimate
211 off leash dog exercise, are served by numerous locations.

212
213 -PAC is currently being told there is no money beyond \$5,000 for fencing of additional
214 dog parks despite much larger sums being spent on other Parks projects.

215
216 -\$250,000 of development millage money became recently unbudgeted due to being
217 released from Park security plans in the 07-08 budget.

218
219 Be it resolved that PAC recommends that the City Council approve the following:

220 -Direct City Parks staff to make opening the Swift Run dog park a priority to be
221 completed before the current October 07 projection if at all possible.

222
223 -Direct City Parks staff to create a detailed plan for volunteer involvement with the
224 design and operation of dog parks with knowledgeable citizen volunteer groups (Canine
225 Social Club currently identified) in order to ensure smooth operation, good
226 City/County/volunteer team work, and unqualified dog park success.

227
228 -Direct City Parks staff to identify two or three areas for dog parks located in the north and
229 east of town to be fenced and opened this summer.

230
231 -Direct City Parks staff to allow consideration for off leash dog parks of currently
232 scheduled Park land, with public input, if adequate unscheduled Park land cannot
233 be found for additional off leash areas.

234
235 -Approve an increase in the development budget, to come out of the
236 rehab/development millage money saved on security, for one or more such off
237 leash dog parks sufficient to provide basic fencing, gates, and any other
238 reasonable basic amenity considered essential by staff, PAC, and/or
239 recommended by CSC (or other participating volunteer group of experts).

240
241 **T. Berla** stated he agrees with the providing dog parks but does not agree with the wording
242 of the Resolution.

Ayes: (3) G. Nystuen, B. Macomber, L. Berauer

Nays: (4) J. Lawter, T. Berla, S. Rosencrans, D. Barrett

Absent: (1) S. Offen

Motion failed

B-2 Off-Leash Dog Areas – **C. Smith** spoke on off-leash areas.

B-3 Bandemer Park Master Plan and Funding – **A. Kuras** presented an overview of the Bandemer Park master plan to the Commission.

S. Kunselman asked when the disk golf course will be constructed.

A. Kuras stated that the contractor for this project is pending approval by City Council. **A. Kuras** also explained that costs for development of the disc golf course have increased due to industrial materials on the site that the construction process will accommodate.

G. Nystuen moved, supported by **D. Barrett** to recommend the remaining phases for the Master Plan of Bandemer Park be approved including the disc golf course construction and the parking lot paving.

Ayes: (7) G. Nystuen, B. Macomber, L. Berauer, J. Lawter, T. Berla, S. Rosencrans, D. Barrett

Nays: (0) None.

Absent: (1) S. Offen

Motion approved

B-4 FY 2008 Budget and FY 2009 Financial Plan Update

L Berauer summarized the City Council action on the parks operations budget and the parks and recreation services budget.

B-5 Proposition to Amend the Ann Arbor City Charter for the Sale of Parkland

R. Johnson spoke on the sale of parkland. Johnson explained a proposed Resolution that will require a vote of the residents to sell parkland. Johnson also expressed the need to include a restriction on re-classification/re-zoning of park land to other non-park uses as a means of making land available for sale. Johnson stated that land that is designated as park land in the City master plan cannot be sold and encouraged PAC to include all park land in the (PROS) master plan.

C - NEW BUSINESS

C-1 PAC Liaison to Environmental Commission

L Berauer indicated that **G. Nystuen** has volunteered to serve as the new Liaison to the Environmental Commission. **C. Riseng** previously served as the liaison. **L. Berauer** recommended to the Commission that **G. Nystuen** serve in this position. The Commission agreed.

D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS

E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368

F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS

G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

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

H-1 Golf Course Operations Study

J. Lawter provided an overview of the Golf Course Operations Study and the interviewing process for project consultants.

L. Berauer asked J. Lawter to explain the criteria for recommendation of a Consultant.

J. Lawter explained that the interview committee considered past experience with Similar projects, understanding of the project, and the ability to meet the proposed project schedule.

R. Johnson asked about the cost of this project and where these monies are budgeted.

C. Smith stated the monies were budgeted in the General Fund.

H-2 Athletic Field Conditions

D. Barrett provided the Commission with an update of the task force activities. He stated that the fields are in poor condition. He explained that the task force had inspected Fuller Field with **Rob Millett** and soils sampling has been completed at the fields.

D. Barrett also recommended fencing one field to limit access while the field is resting from excessive play. The task force is considering a field evaluation process so that the turf on the fields are not damaged due to excessive use.

T. Berla added comments on the fields.

J. Lawter also added comments on the fields.

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 – (Information in Packet)

K-2 Parks Project Update – (Information in Packet)

K-3 Parks and Recreation Events for June - July 2007 – (Information in Packet)

K-4 February PAC Work Session – (Information in Packet)

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Rosencrans moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Bowen
Lynn Bowen
Administrative Support Specialist V

July 2007					
	Cost	Staff	Council Date	Council Action	Source of Funding
Resolution to Approve a Contract for improvements at Sylvan Park and Redwood Park	\$48,350	JD	7/2/2007	approved	Fund 0018
Resolution to Approve a Contract for Improvements at South Maple Park and Garden Homes Park and to Appropriate \$26,000.00 from the Parks Memorials and Contributions Fund to the South Maple Park and Garden Homes Park	\$72,328	AK	6/18/2007	approved	Fund 0018 Fund 0034
Resolution to Approve a Contract for the Leslie Science Center Critter House Renovation	\$42,735	AK	6/18/2007	approved	Fund 0018
Resolution to Approve Partnership Agreement Between the City of Ann Arbor and the Leslie Science and Nature Center	NA	KL	6/18/2007	approved	NA
An Ordinance to amend Section 9:45 and 9:47(Animals) of Chapter 107 of Title IX of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor and provide for off-leash dog play areas	NA	CS	6/4/2007 6/18/2007	approved	NA
Resolution to Approve a Contract for Concrete and Fencing Work at Buhr Park Pool Building	\$35,265	JD	6/4/2007	approved	Fund 0018
An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:195 of Chapter 8 (Organization of Boards and Commissions) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor and Sections 2:92, 2:94, 2:95, 2:96 and 2:97 of Chapter 31 (Public Market) of Title II of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor	NA	JB	6/4/2007	approved	NA
Resolution to Approve a Professional Services Contract with Beckett & Raeder, Inc. for Contract Document Preparation and Construction Administration for Implementation of the Farmer's Market Master Plan	\$99,440.00	JD	6/4/2007	approved	Fund 18, Market Funds, DDA Funds
Approve A Caretaker Contract Renewal For Maintenance Of Leslie Science Center Property	NA	KL	4/3/2007	approved	General Fund
Resolution to approve a Transition Plan for the Management and Operation of the Leslie Science Center to a 501 c 3 Non-Profit and to Authorize the City Administrator and City Attorney to Act as Negotiators for the City	NA	JM	3/5/07	approved	NA
Resolution to approve a Raptor Specialist Contract for Leslie Science Center	\$24,000.00	KL	12/18/06	approved	GF
Resolution to approve a construction contract for the Kempf House Window Restoration Project	\$29,000.00	AK	11/9/06	approved	Fund 18 & Kempf House Museum Board
Resolution to approve a construction contract for improvements at Brookside Park.	\$50,000.00	AK	10/16/06	approved	Fund 18
Resolution to approve a construction contract to complete playground improvements at Gallup Park	\$103,538	AK	9/5/2006	approved	Fund 18
Resolution to Approve a New Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage Proposal for Submission to the Voters at the November 2006 Election	NA	JM	8/21/2006	approved	NA
Resolution of Intent on the Administration of Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage	NA	JM	8/21/2006	approved	NA
Approve a construction contract for improvements at Wellington Park	\$45,400.00	AK	8/10/2006	approved	Fund 18
Paving project at five neighborhood park locations.	\$137,000.00	JD	8/17/2006	approved	Fund 18
Approve A Caretaker Contract For Maintenance Of Leslie Science Center	NA	KL	7/3/2006	approved	General Fund
Approve A Construction Contract for Improvements At Evergreen Park	\$61,429.00	JD	6/5/2006	approved	Fund 18
Replacement of Ice Rink Compressor Units at Buhr Park and Veterans Memorial Ice Arenas	\$136,400	JD	7/19/2006	approved	Fund 18
Approval of Revised Market Master Plan	NA	JD	1/23/2006	approved	Fund 18
Approval of the Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan, 2006-2011	NA	AK	1/23/2006	approved	Fund 18

**Park Rehabilitation and Development Millage
Project Update
July, 2007**

Bandemer Park

- Development of Phase II construction documents, for parking layout, plantings and park amenities, in the southern area of the park near the boat houses, are in process.
- Approval of a contract for installation of Phase III, which includes a Disc Golf Course, is expected to be included on July 16 City Council agenda.
- Phase IV, which includes paving of the north parking lot, will be completed in July 2007.

Bluffs Park

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

Cobblestone Farm Barn

- Replacement of the barn windows is complete. The windows throughout the barn structure been had on-going problems including leaks, exterior painting maintenance, moisture between glass panes, and crank units not working properly. All windows have been replaced with lower maintenance, high energy-efficiency windows.

Mary Beth Doyle Park (Brown Park)

- The park remains closed.
- Construction work has resumed for the summer months and continues to progress.
- Alignment changes will occur to the pathway traveling east and west by the play area and basketball court. The basketball court will be reconstructed and relocated slightly to the east. Adjustments to both of these elements are being made to improve surface water drainage.
- The disc golf course will be upgraded.
- The existing play equipment will be reconfigured.

Dog Park – Swift Run

- The partnership contract documents and the maintenance agreement are expected to be submitted for City Council action on August 6. Operations planning meetings with PAC and special interest groups will continue during the upcoming weeks.
- Meetings continue between City and County Park Planning staff to finalize the design details.

Off-Leash Dog Areas

- Community meetings to consider development of off-leash areas at several park locations continue. A temporary off-leash site that will be available during construction of the Swift Run Dog Park is planned at Southeast Area Park. An off-leash site is also under consideration at Olson Park.

Farmers Market

- City Council has awarded a professional services contract to Beckett & Raeder, Inc. to prepare contract documents and oversee construction.
- A project kick-off meeting with the consultant occurred on June 25th. A revised project schedule is forth coming.

Game Court and Pathway Paving Projects

- Work has been completed on paving the basketball courts at Churchill Downs, Glacier Highlands, Lansdowne, and Northside parks. The tennis court at Northside and the pathways at Lansdowne and Greenbrier have also been reconstructed.
- Renovations to Allmendinger, Scheffler and part of Garden Homes Park pathways are planned for this summer.

Garden Homes Park

- Improvements will include a new play area, park furniture, bird/bat houses, and replacement of existing asphalt pathway. The park redevelopment project was approved by City Council for construction and the equipment purchase will be completed at the July 16, 2007 Council Agenda.

Greenview Park

- Conversations with Ann Arbor Public School staff continue regarding use of a portion of the Greenview school site for a play area.

Leslie Science Center

- Improvements at the Critter House are anticipated in August and will include a small addition to accommodate educational and camp programs by providing a larger classroom-like space for use during the fall and winter months. The renovation will also include the addition of a large window that will create a wildlife viewing area for children's education programs.

Olson Park

- Additional phases of improvements at Olsen Park are scheduled in the fall, 2007 and include the addition of a restroom building, parking lot final paving, and landscape additions.
- Staff is preparing specifications to install additional plantings on-site during the summer/fall months.

Project Grow Community Garden Proposal

- The proposed garden site at the Crest/Bemidji site is on pending. Project Grow is working with Systems Planning and Parks and Recreation Services to identify additional garden sites on city properties.

Redwood Park

- Proposed improvements will include benches, landscaping and a walkway through the park, construction expected summer 2007.

2007 PAC Work Plan
(Updated June 20, 2007)

Priority based on Feb. retreat	Project	Team
***** *****	Financial information that provides for “user-friendly” transparency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Intelligence; “Dash boards” • Understanding of different resources for the parks system (millage, General Fund; enterprise funds, acquisition millage) • Include financial data on website, millage financial information on website • Transparency in financial information 	Sam Brigit (John as backup) Christen Tom Crawford
*****	Athletic Field conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure quality of fields • user input for perceived quality • Checklists/assessment of fields 	David Tim John
*****	Allen Creek Greenway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages 	Linda
****	Planning Commission Interface <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developer-initiated projects • Getting early information from Planning • Staff-initiated projects 	Linda Gwen Sam
***	Ballot Initiative for Charter Amendment Placing Limits on Sale of a City Park	Bob J
***	Clear definition of Natural Area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of appropriate activities in Natural Area • Guidelines for Natural Areas • Lower quality Natural areas 	Gwen Bob J Scott
**	Regional Park System Feasibility	???

**	<p>Notice of Public Meetings re Park Development Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAC members in attendance • Notice in PAC packet • Notice by email 	Staff
**	<p>Acquisition of a large parcel to provide for development of a regional park Partnerships with other agencies, Washtenaw County, Townships</p>	LAC
**	<p>User fees/revenue policy and sponsorships</p>	???
*	<p>Develop Process for park development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flowcharts and timelines with specific points for PAC input • How are project identified • Document the process for park projects development/redevelopment 	Brigit Sam
*	<p>Adopt – A – Park</p>	Staff
*	<p>Records of customer concerns Gather input, comment cards, follow-up</p>	Staff
*	<p>Clarify roles of Dean Fund Committee, Cobblestone Farm Association, Kempf House Board</p>	Staff
	<p>Staff overview – Who does what</p>	Staff
	<p>Signage on-site to designated Millage-funded projects Develop a special logo for Millage Projects</p>	Staff
	<p>Parking space lease agreement</p>	Staff